Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

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LD111451 [Editorial Report]

Lebanon

Anglican envoy Terry Waite has been dead since 21 January, according to an 11 September report in the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Siyasah* cited by TANJUG. The daily revealed information from sources within the Lebanese Armed Forces that Waite was wounded in the head as he tried to escape from his abductors the day after he was kidnapped. The murder occurred in Al-biqa' Valley, the paper said.

Libya-Iraq

In a joint communique carried by INA and Tripoli radio, Iraq and Libya stressed their desire to "build fraternal relations" and develop them "in all fields." The communique, which was issued at the end of a 2-day visit to Baghdad by Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, noted that "frank and constructive talks" were held on the Arab situation. On the subject of the Iran-Iraq war, the two sides declared that the conflict "serves imperialist and Zionist schemes" and is a "serious threat to peace." In line with the Arab League Council decision, they called on Iran to accept UN Resolution 598. They also reaffirmed their belief in the principles of the Arab League Charter which condemns foreign interference in the affairs of Arab countries.

In reaction to the joint communique, which was interpreted as a "decision to restore full relations," the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Qabas* praised Libya's "courageous" act of putting aside "petty differences" in the interests of the security of the Arab nation, KUNA reported. The paper added that Libya's "shift" would enhance current efforts toward peace. After visiting Baghdad, the Libyan foreign liaison secretary went to Kuwait to confer with "senior" officials on bilateral and Arab concerns, the agency noted.

Libya

Conflict With Chad—Libya will halt its "punitive air raids inside Chadian territory" 11 September in response to the appeal by the OAU chairman, JANA announced. According to a statement broadcast earlier by Ndjamena radio, the Chadian Government agreed to accept the OAU proposal for a cease-fire in the conflict with Libya. The statement also requested that the OAU convene the ad hoc committee on the conflict and stressed Chad's willingness to work for a "rapid and final settlement" of the dispute.

Regarding action on the battleground, 12 civilians were killed and 20 wounded when Libyan warplanes bombed Faya Largeau 10 September, AFP reported. The Libyans dropped "napalm, fragmentation bombs, and poisonous gas" on localities in northern Chad, including Fada, Zouar, Ouadi Doum, and Wour, Ndjamena radio charged.

Relations With Algeria—Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Political Bureau, who delivered a message on issues of common concern from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, JANA reported.

Gulf Conflict

Combat Action—Iraqi warplanes hit a large maritime target in the tanker holding area east of Khark Island, a military statement carried by Voice of the Masses radio announced, adding that all aircraft returned to base after the mission. However, Tehran radio reported 11 September that an Iraqi plane was downed near Khark Island the previous day and that other enemy warplanes were repelled.

Regarding action on land, a communique broadcast on Voice of the Masses radio listed air strikes carried out against industrial and communications targets in the Eslamabad, Bakhtaran, Karand, Do Rud, and Maragheh areas. Tehran radio reported that "fierce fighting" occurred near the Al-Faw-al-Qasr highway, and, according to a military statement carried by IRNA, Guards Corps artillery bombarded economic and military targets in Basra, Al-'Amarah, and Umm Qasr. An Iraqi communique aired by Voice of the Masses radio charged that Iranian shells killed 8 civilians in Basra and 11 in Al-Sulaymaniyah and Qil'at Dizah.

Diplomacy—In remarks cited by Tehran radio, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani declared that the "aggressor" in the war must be named before Iran will agree to a cease-fire. While noting various "positive" aspects of UN Resolution 598, the speaker stressed that Iran cannot accept the "risk" that the United States may not be "honest" during the process of naming the aggressor after a cease-fire is declared. He noted that Iran will discuss these issues with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Iran

The Norwegian ambassador was summoned to receive a "strong protest" over a "savage and terrorist-style attack" on the Iranian Embassy in Oslo, according to a Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by Tehran radio. The spokesman alleged that the Oslo police were "incompetent" in dealing with the incident during which oppositionists held the embassy and some of its personnel for about 3 hours. Furthermore, he called for Norway to "pay compensation" for damage and return property and documents that the "lackeys of arrogance" removed from the premises. The FRG envoy was also summoned in connection with an attack on the Iran Air office in Frankfurt, IRNA disclosd. AFP later reported that a spokesman for the Feda'i-ye Khalq organization claimed responsibility for the Oslo and Frankfurt attacks as well as a third attack on the Iran Air office in Paris.

Kuwait

The Kuwaiti-french Bank in Paris was damaged by a "powerful bomb explosion," AFP reported, adding that investigators believe that the attack was related to a

7 September bombing which caused "minor damages" to the Saudi-European Bank.

According to an Interior Ministry statement cited by the *Kuwait Times*, arsonists are responsible for a recent fire that damaged science facilities at Kuwait University.

Ethiopia

A decree establishing the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (PDRE) and approving the new constitution was passed by the National Shengo, "the organ of power representing the people, which has assumed state power from the PMAC [Provisional Military Administrative Council]," Addis Ababa radio reported. During proceedings carried by the radio, Mengistu Haile Miriam, secretary general of the WPE [Workers Party of Egypt] and chairman of the former PMAC, was sworn in as PDRE president. Other officials, including a vice president, State Council officials and members, and a Council of Ministers, were elected or named.

Israel

"Senior security sources" denied that Israel planted mines off the Lebanese coast from Tyre southward, Jerusalem radio reported. According to Beirut radio, Amal personnel detonated two mines and sunk a third south of Tyre. The Israeli Navy also detonated a mine in an unspecified location off Lebanon, IDF Radio noted, adding that the device was similar to mines discovered in the Gulf.

The Tel Aviv paper *Davar* revealed that, according to "Arab sources in Cairo," Egypt shot down an Israeli reconnaissance drone over the Red Sea 26 August.

Geneva Talks on Afghanistan

Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan expressed "disappointment" at the "total inadequacy" of the DRA proposals at the indirect talks in Geneva, Karachi radio reported, adding that Pakistan continues to insist that the Soviet withdrawal be accomplished over a period not to exceed 8 months. In remarks cited by Kabul radio, DRA Foreign Minister Abdol Wakil stressed that his country will continue to make efforts toward a "just and realistic political solution" to the Afghanistan problem.

Tunisia

President Habib Bourguiba relieved Information Minister Abderrazaq Kefi of his duties and appointed the director general of TAP to the cabinet position, Tunis radio reported, adding that two ministers of state in the areas of planning and finance were also named.

Chad

Faya Largeau, Fada, Ouadi Doum, Bombed

AB101938 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1856 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Faya Largeau, the capital of the Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti Region, was intensively bombed today by the Libyan Air Force. These savage and blind air raids, which were carried out at regular intervals, lasted the entire afternoon. At the same time, the slave traders from Tripoli dropped napalm, fragmentation bombs, and poisonous gas on Fada, Zouar, and (?another town). The cynical bombing by the barbaric Libyan Air Force is still going in the northern part of our country. After bombing Wour yesterday, Ouadi Doum, Fada, and Wour were blindly bombed by the invaders' Air Force this morning.

12 Dead, 20 Wounded in Faya Largeau

AB102206 Paris AFP in French 2129 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Paris, 10 Sep (AFP) — The bombing carried out on Faya Largeau this afternon resulted in 12 civilians being killed and 20 others wounded, the Chadian Embassy in Paris announced today. According to the embassy, the Libyan aircraft attacked the palm grove in northern Chad at 1530 local time. Earlier in the evening, the embassy had reported bombings carried out against many localities in the north of the country, particularly on Fada and Ouadi Doum.

Cease-Fire To Be Proclaimed With Libya 11 Sep

AB110732 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 11 Sep 87

[Report on extraordinary Cabinet meeting held on 10 September in Ndjamena following a request by the OAU chairman for a cease-fire in the Chad-Libya conflict; read by Mahamat Nour Maliaye, acting minister of information and civic orientation — recorded]

[Text] An extraordinary Cabinet meeting that included members of the Executive Committee of the National Consultative Council and the National Union for Independence and Revolution [UNIR] was held under the chairmanship of His Excellency El Hadj Hissein Habre, president of the Republic, head of state, chairman of the Cabinet, and founding chairman of UNIR, on 10 September 1987 from 1900 to 2100. The president of the Republic informed participants of a demand for a cease-fire between Libya and Chad presented by the OAU. After a long debate, the government informs the national and international public of the following:

The Government of the Republic of Chad was contacted by the current chairman of the OAU, His Excellency Kenneth Kaunda, on 9 September 1987 with regard to the issue of a cease-fire in the war of aggression that Libya has imposed on Chad. Faithful to the principles of the OAU and true to its constant policy of resolving conflicts through peaceful means, the government of the Republic of Chad is ready to proclaim a cease-fire with Libya beginning Friday, 11 September 1987 at 1100 local time [1000 GMT].

However, in the opinion of Chad, which is the victim of aggression and the occupied country, a cease-fire will be meaningless if it does not lead to a rapid and final settlement of the conflict between Chad and Libya. That is why Chad, while agreeing to the OAU's demand for a cease-fire, calls for the immediate convening of the OAU ad hoc committee on the Chad-Libya conflict. By this gesture, Chad once again demonstrates its readiness to work for peace and shows its good will with regard to the efforts being made by the OAU to put an end to the Chad-Libya conflict.

In any case, considering the perversity and treachery of the fascist regime of Libya, the government calls on the Chadian people to remain mobilized and vigilant, ready to foil any antinational maneuvers from whatever quarter.

Faction Fighting in Tibesti Intensifies

LD111133 Tripoli JANA in English 1045 GMT 11 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih [September] 11, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Reliable Chadian sources have stressed that the fighting which erupted Wednesday in Tibesti mountains between the pro-Goukouni FAP [People's Armed Forces] and the pro-Habre FAN [Northern Armed Forces] gangs have intensified greatly.

The above sources have pointed out that the fighting which extended into the two regions of Bardai and Zimri has expanded further to include the region of Zouar.

These sources add that La Sijiri, commander of FAP, is leading the troops that fight the gangs of puppet Habre.

Oueddei, Oumar Factions Reported Reconciled

LD101302 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1059 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Ouagadougou, 10 Sep (JANA) — Reconciliation between Goukouni Oueddei and Acheikh ibn Oumar was announced in Ouagadougou today. This reconciliation comes at a time when fierce fighting has erupted in the Tibesti mountains between the pro-Goukouni Oueddei forces, FAP [People's Armed Forces], and the pro-agent Habre FAN gangs.

Alliance 'Fragile' After Meeting

LD110256 Paris International Service in French 2030 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Here is a report on Chad, and the meeting in Ouagadougou between the two leaders of the Chadian opposition, Goukouni Oueddei and Acheikh ibn Oumar: The dialogue between the two men seemed to have been renewed yesterday. There was even talk of reconciliation, but this afternoon — and this is a Paris International Radio exclusive — everything fell through. They are in disagreement once again. The reconciliation is reported to have been short-lived. Stephen Smith reports the following:

This reconciliation is fragile. Barely 24 hours after their surprise meeting at the Burkinabe Presidency, an initial working session between Goukouni Oueddei and

Acheikh ibn Oumar once again came to nothing even with Thomas Sankara present. However, at a time when serious matters should have begun, Oueddei put back on the table his demand to be recognized as the legitimate president of the Chadian opposition. This is a bit of deja-vu. This obstacle has in fact prevented any reconciliation within the Chadian opposition since the forming of the neo-GUNT in November last year. However hard Acheikh ibn Oumar tried to refer Oueddei to the subsequent decision of a meeting of all the opposition groups, as he did on Wednesday evening, he would not hear of it.

After a night which apparently brought counsel, Oueddei would no longer see things this way. So we will wait in vain for the joint communique which was to be the concrete result of Wednesday evening. In addition, Acheikh ibn Oumar's movement has made public a statement clarifying matters, (calling on) the opposition groups to rediscover true unity, with clear objectives, and not a facade of unity, nor a form of unity based around individuals. This is transparently clear.

In fact nothing has been settled following the summit meeting, neither the matter of leadership within the opposition, nor, above all, the matter of what this unity is for, whether to take the road to Ndjamena and negotiations or to take up arms again. The choices remain to be made, just as the reconciliation has still to be achieved.

Libya

Joint Statement With Iraq on Al-Talhi Visit

LD101339 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1247 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Following the visit of the brother secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison to fraternal Iraq, a joint statement was issued simultaneously in Tripoli and Baghdad today. It is as follows:

At the invitation of Brother Tariq 'Aziz, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Iraq, Brother Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, the secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison in the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, paid a visit to Iraq from 6 to 8 September 1987.

During the visit, frank and constructive talks were held between the two sides covering relations between the two fraternal countries, current Arab conditions, and the imperialist, Zionist, and all other threats to the Arab nation. They also discussed the steps and attitudes that should be adopted to safeguard the entity and future of the nation and to retrieve its usurped rights and realize its sublime objectives, including the objective of Arab unity.

In accordance with the two sides' belief in the common destiny and as a result of the bonds of Arab affiliation, it was emphasized that in the forefront of these attitudes and steps stands the need to safeguard Arab solidarity on the basis of the Arab League Charter and other charters which combine the countries of the Arab nation. The two sides have agreed in particular on the following:

1. The two sides affirm their joint anxiousness to build fraternal relations between the two sister countries based on mutual respect and Arab charters. They also express their desire to develop these relations in all fields.

2. The two sides affirm, in accordance with the Arab League Charter, their firm stand against any foreign attempt aimed at detracting from the land, security, and interests of any Arab country or aimed at interference in Arab internal affairs.

3. The continuation of the war between Iraq and Iran represents a serious threat to peace in the region and squanders Arab and Islamic capabilities.

The two sides agreed on the need to end the war by peaceful means and in accordance with international law. They also agreed that the continuation of this war actually serves imperialist and Zionist designs.

The two sides recalled the unanimous resolution adopted by the Arab League Council on 6 April 1987 and affirmed their adherence to the provisions of that resolution, considering them sound and vital for ending the conflict.

The two sides also recalled the Arab League Council's resolution of 25 August 1987, which urged Iran to respond to the call for peace and a solution of the conflict by peaceful means in accordance with the UN Charter and international law and on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution No 598, which was welcomed by Iraq and for which the two sides have expressed support.

Brother Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, has invited Brother Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to visit the Great Jamahiriyah. He has gladly accepted the invitation.

Air Raids on Chad Suspended 11 Sep

LD111030 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1010 GMT 11 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, 11 Sep (JANA) — In response to the pressing and repeated appeal made by the OAU chairman, the Great Jamahiriyah is suspending its punitive air raids inside Chadian territory as of midday today, which coincides with the time of the first call to the Friday prayer.

The Great Jamahiriyah hopes that this will be the beginning of an end to this phase of imperialist plotting in the African Continent and that Chad will find a way out of the peril of mass slaughter and destruction toward which imperialism is pushing it.

Jallud Sees Off Algeria's Messaadia 10 Sep

LD110543 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1741 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, 10 Sep (JANA) — Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and official in charge of the Algerian FLN Party's Permanent Secretariat, and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli this evening. He was seen off at the airport by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud, brother secretary of the Congresses' Affairs at the General People's Congress, the Algerian ambassador, and staff from the Algerian Embassy in the Great Jamahiriyah.

Maltese Commission Delegation Continues Visit

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Delegation Head

LD110548 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1430 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, 10 Sep (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution met John Dalli, Maltese industry minister and head of the Maltese side in the Arab Libyan-Maltese Joint Commission.

Protocol Signed

LD110552 Tripoli JANA in English 1658 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih [September] 10, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — At noon today, a protocol was signed on the meeting of the first round of the Libyan Arab-Maltese Joint Committee.

The secretary of the General People's Committee for Industry signed the agreement with "John Dalli" the Maltese minister of industry from the Maltese side.

The protocol stresses upon consolidating of bilateral co-operation in the fields of industry, investment, education, transport, commercial exchange, marine transport and technical co-operation between both friendly countries.

It also provides for the establishment of a firm for fishing sponge and coral, another firm for cloth making and the setting of a joint technical work team in the fields of transport, marine transport to open new transport lines by way of sea and air travel and also an agreement of entry and exit of Libyan Arab and Maltese citizens from and to both countries and travelling on identity cards.

They agreed upon forming a joint committee to study technical co-operation in both education and training in industry in both friendly countries.

Delegation Departs 10 Sep

LD110553 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1743 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, 10 Sep (JANA) — John Dalli, Maltese minister of industry, and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli this evening following a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

Morocco

Strong Ties With Saudi Arabia Reiterated

LD101705 Rabat MAP in French 1000 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Rabat, 10 Sep (MAP) — A recent BBC broadcast has reported that Morocco, responding to a request allegedly made by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, has reportedly agreed to send thousands of Moroccan soldiers to the fraternal country to take part in operations to maintain order in the holy places. Moroccan officials have categorically denied this report. It was also pointed out that relations between Morocco and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are such that deep and broad cooperation has existed between the two fraternal countries for a very long time, and that this cooperation encompasses all fields. The support rendered by each of the two countries to the other is consequently an integral part of the nature of their relations.

'Press Statement' on Sultan's Visit

LD110210 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 9 Sep 87

[Text] In the wake of the visit by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, to Morocco, the following press statement was issued today in Rabat:

His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, heading a Saudi delegation which included numerous civilian and military personalities, paid a visit to Morocco from Monday, 31 August, to Tuesday, 8 September 1987.

His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and his delegation, accommpanied by His Royal Highness Prince Sidi Mohamed, crown prince, and Mr Driss Basri, minister of interior and information, visited a number of civilian and military installations and attended military maneuvers by the commandos and paratroopers stationed in Kenitra.

His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and his accompanying Saudi delegation were then received by His Majesty King Hassan II. His Majesty held one-on-one talks with His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz for about 2 hours. During these talks, numerous issues of mutual interest were reviewed. His Majesty stressed in particular that the Islamic world, which is facing a decisive turning point in its history, should close its ranks and establish a positive and constructive dialogue among its various currents.

Extensive bilateral talks , under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II, were also attended by a number of close aides from both sides.

His Majesty held a banquet in honor of his great guest and the accompanying delegation.

King Urges Islamic Reconciliation, Unity

LD092003 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Sep 87

[Excerpts] Following the bloody events of 31 July in holy Mecca, His Majesty King Hassan II, may God grant him victory, has sent an august message to the leaders of the Islamic world. The following is the text:

[Passage omitted recalling Mecca events] There is not a Muslim on earth who does not see the violations of the holy sanctuaries as a violation of his own beliefs and religion, as well as a horrid deed which infuriates one's conscience and offends one's soul.

The secular demonstrations that took place in Mecca compel Muslim leaders to properly evaluate these new elements in our world in order to draw the necessary conclusions. Above all, they must make sure that the holy sanctuaries enjoy the necessary prestige and respect, so as to insure that hajj rituals do not deviate from their true religious aims and are not being used for other purposes, which, if not checked , could destroy the basis and principles of Islam.

Those who are chosen by Almighty God to lead millions of Muslims should not keep quiet about the violation of the holy Mecca sanctuaries, as they are supposed to be the impregnable fortress of our true religion, as well as its defenders. They are responsible before God and humanity in this respect.

Jerusalem was burned in 1969. An arm of sabotage and destruction extended toward it and nearly destroyed it. The Islamic world rose as one against that criminal act and the leaders of Islamic countries, without exception, met in order to confront the challenge directed at all Muslims . Thus, to adopt such a stance today is the very least expected of the faithful, in light of the greater and more terrible danger that is facing the Islamic nation. The leaders of the Islamic countries met spontaneously in 1969. At that time there was no legal framework within which a meeting of that sort could be convened, whereas today the ICO, which was set up in 1969, provides the organizational framework and a suitable opportunity for a meeting. This, we think, is now the most important obligation.

What has been done cannot be undone. Condemning one side or the other will not bring back those who lost their lives during that sedition. It is our duty to work harder and to make sure that such events will not reoccur by returning to our true religion in order to reconcile enmity, pull together our ranks, and bring about unity. [passage omitted]

Maltese Foreign Minister Arrives for Talks

LD102208 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Maltese Foreign Minister Dr Vincent Tabone arrived in Morocco this evening on an official visit to our country at the invitation of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Abdellatif Filali. In a statement upon arrival at Mohamed V International Airport, the Maltese official said that he would be holding talks with his Moroccan counterpart, as well as a number of ministers from his majesty's government, with regard to the two countries' relations in the trade, cultural, information, and transportation fields.

Tunisia

Islamic Tendency Movement Trial

LD102359 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Yesterday [10 Sep], the State Security Court chaired by Mr Hachemi Zammel continued the interrogation of the defendants in the case of the so-called Islamic Tendency Movement. The court listened to the testimonies of three of those harmed by the violent actions and vitriol bombings carried out by elements of the movement who stand accused.

The first of those injured, Ali Bouhlila, described the assault on his brother and himself on the evening of 21 May in Gabes. He pointed out that two people, who through later investigation turned out to be defendants Boulbaba Dkhil and Bouabdalla Bouabdalla, obstructed his and his brother's way when they were going to the mosque for evening prayers and threw vitriol liquid at them. They then escaped on a motorcycle. The defendants caused various physical damage to Ali Bouhlila and his brother. The injured Abdelkader Bouhlila, treasurer of the Destourian branch in Gabes, confirmed the testimony of his brother.

The perpetrators of this assault, who have been charged with other offenses in the same case, were then called. The first defendant, Boulbaba Ben Dkhil, admitted committing an assault with the intent to murder Ali Bouhlila by using vitriol liquid as a result of the harassment inflicted on him.

Then defendant Bouabdalla Bouabdalla was presented to the court charged with participation in the attempt to murder by vitriol liquid and involvement in the violence and crimes specified in the prosecution's resolution of the Islamic Tendency court case.

The court listened to the testimony of the injured Mouldi Ben Habib Ghazouani who said that as he was performing his duties as a police inspector, he was exposed to assault with extreme violence by a number of demonstrators belonging to the so-called Islamic Tendency Movement when he tried to apprehend one of the demonstrators who was about to distribute leaflets which contained anti-regime slogans. He stressed that on the day of the incident he had refrained from using his weapon against those who assaulted him in spite of the violence he faced.

Defendant Mohamed Nasir Triki admitted that he had known Rachid Ghanouchi since 1978 when he frequented the mosque. He admitted that after arresting the

latter and sentencing him to prison, he destroyed the receipt of this debt [not further specified] for fear of getting further involved.

Defendant Mouhsin Ben Mahmoud Ghoubantini, who is accused of participating in financing the movement and the crimes specified in the prosecution resolution, was called.

Defendant Imad al-Boughami was presented to the court charged with liaising with a foreign country; namely, Iran. He admitted that he had frequented the Iranian Embassy in Tunis and that embassy staff had arranged for his travel to Iran. The defendant also admitted that Iranian passport authorities did not stamp his passport when he entered and left the country.

Najib Ben Omar Fashifi was referred to the State Security Court, accused of participating in the crimes specified in the prosecution resolution and with liaising with Iran. When interrogated the accused admitted that in late 1985 he had frequented the Iranian Embassy.

Defendant Mohamed Belfkih admitted belonging to the so-called Islamic Tendency Movement through Hamadi Djibali and Ali Arid. The defendant admitted that he, as a liaising element, had collected funds for the benefit of the movement.

Defendant Mohamed Ben Hamid Tumi confirmed that he had occupied the post of regional supervisor over Ben Arous, then the post of activities in southern Tunis, and had carried out the duties of supervisor of studies in Tunis. He said that at meetings the leadership of the movement gave them instructions to organize protest marches in the capitol. The defendant also admitted participating in formulating a number of slogans that should be raised or chanted during these demonstrations. He admitted supervising the meetings of the student action committee, which called in particular for organizing a special week calling for sectarian clothes. [as heard]

Bourguiba Makes Cabinet Changes
LD102227 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba held a working meeting at his place of residence in Mornag this morning with Prime Minister Rachid Sfar, Minister of Interior Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, and Amor Chedli, minister director of the Presidential Office.

Prime Minister Sfar presented to the supreme combatant a report on the meeting of the Permanent Bureau of the Political Bureau, which convened yesterday afternoon. He said: The president has provided us with his guidance with regard to the party's activities.

The president has decided to terminate the duties of Abderrazak Kefi and appoint the current director general of the *Tunisian Press Agency* (TAP), Abdelwahab Abdallah, as minister of information.

The president has also appointed Nouri Zorgati as minister of state attached to the minister of planning and finance in charge of financial affairs and Mohamed Ghannouchi as minister of state attached to the minister of planning and finance in charge of planning affairs.

Jordanian Commission Meets
PM101156 Tunis L'ACTION in French 3 Sep 87 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Creation of Joint Commercial and Industrial Cooperation Council"]

[Text] Tunisia and Jordan have agreed to develop their commercial and industrial cooperation, under the terms of the report on the joint commission's deliberations, signed on Tuesday by Minister of Industry and Trade Slaheddine Ben Mbarek and Raja'i al-Mu'ahsir, his Jordanian counterpart.

The document states that the two sides accepted the principle of giving preference to their respective products for import and export provided they are of a comparable standard to other countries' products. They also decided to hold annual trade exhibitions, in Tunis and Amman alternately, and to increase the size of the export quotas to 2.5 million dollars in 1988.

The two sides also agreed to set up trade missions in Tunis and Amman to more effectively advertize products and guarantee the continuation of commercial operations between the two countries. Among other prerogatives, the missions will encourage contacts between major exporters, facilitate the conclusion of deals, distribute commercial information, and organize exhibitions and sales of national products from each of the two countries.

In addition, the report on the meeting's proceedings expressed the two sides' satisfaction with the creation of the Tunisian-Jordanian commercial and industrial cooperation council, and their hope that this body will help businessmen to contribute to the development of economic and commercial cooperation between Tunisia and Jordan.

In the industrial cooperation sphere, the document reports the agreement between the two sides to study the launch of joint industrial projects, to harmonize their industrial programs, to guarantee complementarity, and to avoid duplication of effort in the implementation of projects. Finally, the two countries expressed their desire to increase their cooperation in the spheres of tourism, science, and technology, and cooperation between the Tunisian and Jordanian airlines.

In speeches suited to the occasion, Mr Ben Mbarek and Mr al-Mu'ahsir said they are convinced that the new provisions laid down by the joint commission will help step up trade and increase bilateral economic cooperation in accordance with the directives of President Bourguiba and King Husayn to make Tunisian-Jordanian cooperation exemplary.

Foreign Minister Meets Iraqi Envoy
LD102137 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Tunisian Minister of Foreign Affairs Hedi Mabrouk met this morning with Iraqi Ambassador to Tunisia Taha Yasin al-'Ali. They discussed the development of the war between Iraq and Iran and the consultations taking place on the imposition of the resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council for the establishment of peace in the Gulf region.

Bahrain

Mine Defused in Territorial Waters

JN101932 Doha QNA in Arabic 1920 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Manama, 10 Sep (QNA) — A responsible source in the Bahraini Defense Force has reported that a mine was found in Bahraini territorial waters this evening.

In a statement carried by WAKH this evening, the source said that the mine was defused by the Bahraini Defense Force.

Kuwait

Libyan Foreign Minister on Talks

LD101740 Kuwait KUNA in English 1400 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 10 (KUNA) — Libya's Foreign Minister Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, Thursday left here for home after conferring with senior Kuwaiti officials.

In a pre-departure statement to KUNA, the Libyan chief diplomat said his visit to Kuwait came within the framework of consultations and exchanging views on issues of bilateral concern and matters related to the Arab nation.

He expressed his gratitude to H.H. the amir, H.H. the crown prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah and the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi.

On his recent visit to Baghdad, Al-Talhi said the trip was successful and added that the goal of enhancing relations between Libya and Iraq has been fulfilled.

Earlier this week, Al-Talhi paid a visit to Iraq where he conferred with President Saddam Husayn in addition to other ranking officials.

It is believed a communique will be announced stipulating the resumption of diplomatic relations between Tripoli and Baghdad. Diplomatic ties between the two countries were severed in 1985.

Commenting on Libyan-Chadian relations, Al-Talhi said his country has no ambitions of greed as it was repeatedly emphasised and added that Libya will confront any foreign aggression.

Al-Talhi was seen off by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi and the Libyan charge d'affaires to Kuwait in addition to a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

Foreign Minister Returns From Moscow

LD101719 Kuwait KUNA in English 1235 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 10 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad returned home Thursday from Moscow after heading the seven-man Arab Committee delegation which paid a one-day visit to the Soviet Union.

The delegation held intensive talks with Soviet Premier Nikolay Ryzhkov and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze that concentrated on the dangers of the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war and the importance of implementing the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 which calls for immediate ceasefire, the exchange of prisoners of war and withdrawal to the international borders of each country.

On arrival Shaykh Sabah and the delegation accompanying him were received by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, Foreign Under Secretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin and other ranking ministry officials.

Note Brought to UAE President

LD102119 Kuwait KUNA in English 0847 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 10 (KUNA) — Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid left here Thursday for Rabat on an official visit to Morocco during which he conveys a message from H.H. the amir to UAE President Zayid ibn Sultan Shaykh al Nuhayyan.

Al-Rashid told KUNA that the message falls within the framework of consultations initiated by Kuwait with its Arab sister states.

He added that the message calls for Arab unity and establishing peace and security in the region.

Shaykh Zayid is currently in Morocco on a private visit.

Joint Communique Issued With Libya

JN101125 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1036 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Sep (INA) — Iraq and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah have affirmed that the Iraq-Iran war's continuation poses a serious threat to regional peace and wastes Arab and Muslim energies.

The above was contained in a joint communique issued at the conclusion of the 7-8 September 1987 official visit to Baghdad by Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison. The text of the joint communique follows:

At the invitation of Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, visited Iraq from 7-8 September 1987.

During the visit, constructive and frank talks were held on relations between the two fraternal countries, the Arab situation, imperialist and Zionist threats, as well as all other threats to which the Arab nation is exposed, and the steps and stands that should be taken to safeguard the nation's entity and future, regain its usurped rights, and achieve its lofty aims, including Arab unity.

In view of the two sides' belief in a common destiny, and in view of the ties of Arab affiliation, the two sides affirmed that foremost among such stands and steps is the need to safeguard Arab solidarity on the basis of the Arab League Charter and other conventions that bind the countries of the Arab nation. In particular, the two sides agreed upon the following:

1. The two sides emphasize their joint eagerness to build fraternal relations between the two brotherly countries based on mutual respect and Arab conventions. The two sides also express their desire to develop these relations in all fields.

2. In accordance with the Arab League Charter, the two sides affirm their firm stand against any foreign attempt to infringe on the territory, security, or interests of any Arab country or interfere in the Arabs' internal affairs.

3. The continuation of the war between Iran and Iraq constitutes a serious threat to peace in the region and a waste of Arab and Islamic capabilities. The two sides agreed on the need to end the war through peaceful means and in accordance with international law. The two sides also agreed that this war's continuation actually serves imperialist and Zionist schemes.

The two sides reaffirmed the resolution unanimously adopted by the Arab League Council on 6 April 1987. The two sides affirmed adherence to the principles contained in that resolution as a sound and necessary basis to resolve the conflict. They also reaffirmed the Arab League Council resolution adopted on 25 August 1987 which urged Iran to respond to the call of peace and resolve the conflict through peaceful means in accordance with the UN Charter and international law and on the basis of Security Council Resolution 598. Iraq had welcomed Resolution 598 and the two sides voiced support for it.

Eng Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, extended an invitation to Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to visit the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Tariq 'Aziz gladly accepted the invitation.

Gulf War Battle Reports Continue

Lloyds on Enemy Ships

JN101312 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1245 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] London, 10 Sep (INA) — A British Lloyds' list today confirmed that Iraqi fighter planes sank two rescue ships during their raids on the Iranian Khark Island last night. [as received]

Quoting its shipping sources in the Arab Gulf, the list of the British Lloyds company points out that the two rescue ships were used to help oil tankers at the major Iranian oil-pumping stations.

Communique No 2,819

JN101438 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1335 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Communique No 2,819 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 10 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Praise be to God for his great support. O lofty Iraqis, builders and fighters, you want Iraq to continue to destroy Iran's vital and economic targets. You also want to cut off the oil supplies whose revenues the Iranian regime exploits for its aggressive purposes against our territory and people. Pursuant to your will, a large number of the heroic planes of our Air Force penetrated deep into Iranian territory today. Your zealous sons and valiant hawks led them to their selected targets, where they carried out the following heroic missions:

1. At 0940 [0540 GMT] today, scores of our aircraft dealt a blow to the power station east of Shahabad [Eslamabad].

2. At the same time, scores of our planes dealt a devastating blow to the sugar factory in Shahabad.

3. Simultaneously, scores of our planes pounded the power station to the west of Kermanshah [Bakhtaran].

4. At the same time, scores of our planes dealt a devastating blow to the Kermanshah radio station to silence the voice of charlatanism, falsehood, and lies.

5. At 1200 today, scores of our aircraft once again dealt a blow to the communications station in Karand and destroyed new targets in the station.

6. At 1306 today, our planes carried out an intensive raid against the communications station in the Maragheh area, destroying their targets.

7. At 1615 today, our planes once again raided the cement plant in Do Rud to destroy newly selected targets at this plant.

After carrying out these missions, all our aircraft returned safely and triumphantly to base, thanks to God's care and help.

With these and other activities, we are exercising legitimate deterrence against the Iranian regime. This regime has never failed to display its persistence in and insistence on waging war and aggressions. It has also frankly and officially rejected UN Security Council Resolution 598. Iran has additionally announced through its senior officials that it is not ready to resolve the conflict peacefully on the basis of the provisions contained in that resolution.

Furthermore, this regime is embodying its official rejection of the resolution by continuing to perpetrate aggressions against our borders and also against the lives and security of our citizens. This regime has additionally expanded the scope of its aggression to include the entire Arab Gulf region. Thus, we are through these activities demonstrating to the Iranian rulers that Iraq's calls for peace, its acceptance of the UN Security Council resolution, and its welcoming of the good offices exerted to help end this war are accompanied by our country's position of power, strength, and superiority. This defeats the illusions of the Iranian rulers. They deluded themselves into believing that they can continue with their political maneuvers and armed aggression simultaneously. They also think that they can remain immune to the destructive deterrence carried out against them by powerful Iraq. This deterrence will confirm their impotence and force them to pay always and everywhere the price of the crimes that they perpetrate, as well as the price of aggression.

Hence, we will continue these strikes until the Iranian regime concludes that peace is the only acceptable option and that it is the only option that falls in line with the interests of the region's peoples. Pride and dignity are yours, O men of our Air Force — commanders, eagles, officers, and other ranks — for these highly effective efforts in the course of developments. These efforts confirm the inevitability of Iraq's decisive victory, God willing. God will continue to support us as long as we continue to defend our land, our sovereignty, and the nation's honor and dignity.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 10 September 1987

Communique No 2,820

JN101644 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Communique No 2,820 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 10 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces have continued their heroic combat activities in defending the homeland and in imposing their full control of the situation on all battlefields. The following is a roundup of our units' activities for last night and today:

1. The aircraft of our heroic Air Force carried out 66 combat missions today. During their missions, they dealt blows to vital enemy installations and destroyed several enemy concentrations, equipment, and gun emplacements on the battefield. After carrying out all their missions, our planes returned safely and triumphantly to base, praise be to God.

2. Our valiant helicopter gunships carried out 48 combat missions over the battlefield. They inflicted important loses in personnel, equipment, and weapons on the aggressors. Our helicopters then returned safely to base, protected by God.

3. Two enemy soldiers were killed, a heavy machinegun emplacement and a mortar were destroyed, and two ammunition dumps were detonated in the VII Army Corps sector.

4. Two scoundrels were killed, an infantry position and an observation post were destroyed, and an ammunition dump was blown up in the II Army Corps central sector.

5. Two scoundrels were killed and an ammunition dump was destroyed in the I Special Army Corps sector, the Allahu Akbar Forces.

6. Two observation posts and an infantry position were destroyed in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah. A bulldozer was damaged and a personnel shelter was destroyed in the I Army Corps northern sector.

7. The criminal Iranian regime continued to shell strictly residential areas, thus expressing its political bankruptcy and military impotence. The gang ruling in Iran shelled residential areas in the valiant city of Basra with long-range artillery. The enemy's shelling martyred eight citizens, including a woman and a child, and wounded several others. The criminal enemy also shelled the city of Al-Sulaymaniyah and Qal'at Dizah with long-range artillery. This enemy shelling martyred 11 citizens in both locations and wounded several others. The Iranian rulers must be held responsible for and be punished for their crimes. May God have mercy on our martyrs and grant swift recovery to our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 10 September 1987

Maritime Target Hit

JN101910 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1856 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Statement by Iraqi military spokesman dated 10 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We have a firm and legitimate right to destroy the economic resources that the enemies of our country

exploit to prolong the war. Our heroic Air Force makes efforts to strike at the vital installations that are associated with the war effort and to cut off the Zionist Iranian regime's oil supplies. Pursuant to our right and in continuing our Air Force's efforts, the planes of our heroic Air Force today dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target in the tanker holding area east of Khark Island at 2200 [1800 GMT]. After carrying out their mission, our aircraft then returned safely to base, praise be to God.

[Dated] 10 September 1987

Tariq 'Aziz Returns From Moscow
JN101010 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Sep (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Baghdad from Moscow today. He participated in the delegation of the 7-member Arab committee entrusted with the task of following the Iraq-Iran war. The committee held talks with Soviet officials on the latest developments in this conflict and the best means of implementing Security Council Resolution 598, which calls for finding a final and comprehensive end to this war.

Assembly Speaker Leaves for Beijing
JN091607 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Sep 87

[Text] Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, RCC member and National Assembly speaker, departed for Beijing today. He is leading a delegation to China for a several-day visit. In a statement to INA, Dr Sa'dun Hammadi said that during the visit he will hold talks with the Chinese leaders as well as the National People's Congress chairman and vice chairman. These talks will concern bilateral relations and methods of promoting them to serve the two peoples' interests. These talks will also address developments in the Iraq-Iran war and international issues of mutual interest.

Reportage on Biton Meeting, Reaction

Biton Receives '3-Point Document'

TA101250 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 10 Sep 87 p 2

[Report by Hana Kalderon from Geneva and Ilan Kfir]

[Excerpt] A three-point document received from 'Arafat on Tuesday by the Israeli leftist delegation includes a PLO declaration of goodwill, stating that the PLO wants to open direct and overt negotiations with the Israeli Government. This statement hints that the PLO is willing to give up the demand for an international conference. It can be assumed that another point in the document mentions a mutual end of hostilities.

The Tuesday meeting in which the document was conveyed started at 0045 and ended at 0200. It was attended by Yasir 'Arafat; Sami Musallam, the head of 'Arafat's bureau; Knesset Member Charlie Biton; businessman David Ish-Shalom; Victor Alush; and a PLO official who took down the minutes. 'Arafat said that if the three points were accepted by the Israeli Government, he would propose any of the following places for a meeting: Egypt, France, or Romania. The members of the leftist delegation are determined not to reveal the details of the document until they are brought to the knowledge of Yitzhaq Shamir and Shim'on Peres.

It should be noted that the meeting in Geneva was a follow-up to the meeting between Prime Minister Shamir and President Ceausescu in Romania. Following that meeting Ceausescu briefed 'Arafat on how far Shamir would be willing to go toward the PLO. All of these meetings were preceded by an initiative by David Ish-Shalom, who worked out a plan which would be acceptable to the Likud, the Alignment, and the PLO. The plan was worked out concurrently through discussions with one of the senior PLO people in the territories. [passage omitted]

Biton Comments on Message

TA101747 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1730 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] The Knesset members [MK's] who met with Yasir 'Arafat in Switzerland returned to Israel a short while ago. During a news conference at Ben-Gurion Airport, Charlie Biton repeated his claim that he is carrying a message for the prime minister and vice prime minister. Our correspondent Dov Gilhar filed the following report from the airport:

The police were not waiting with summonses for questioning the MK's returning from Switzerland. MK Charlie Biton, speaking before a battery of microphones, maintained — despite PLO denials: I have brought a message to Prime Minister Shamir and Vice Prime Minister Peres which includes three main principles that constitute a major breakthrough on the road to peace. He refused to divulge the content of the message, however, saying: Only after I meet with the addressees will I detail the content.

And what if the addressees, Peres and Shamir, refuse to see you? he was asked. Biton replied: If that is the case, I will hold a news conference and report on the content of the message.

The RAKAH spokesman read out a brief statement saying that Yasir 'Arafat would consent to accept UN Resolutions 242 and 338 if Israel recognized the rights of the Palestinian people.

Afterward the police helped the MK's sneak out through a side door to guard them against dozens of KAKH supporters who are holding an illegal demonstration outside.

Weizman on Talks With 'Arafat

TA101051 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Minister Without Portfolio 'Ezer Weizman believes the time is ripe for direct negotiations with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat if he recognizes Israel's right to exist and ceases all terrorist activity. Weizman was speaking to reporter Vivien Royston during a visit to the city of Haifa.

[Begin recording] [Royston] If Yasir 'Arafat denounces terrorism and recognizes UN Resolutions 242 and 338, then Israel should sit down and talk with him. This is the conclusion drawn by Minister Without Portfolio 'Ezer Weizman.

[Weizman] I said, and I repeat myself and I don't deny it, that if 'Arafat recognizes 242 and 338, if he recognizes the State of Israel, and if he stops belligerency and declares the end of belligerency, I see no [as heard] reason to listen to him and talk to him, because, after all, the Palestinian problem is the crux of the conflict between us and the Arab world.

[Royston] Israel's signing of the Camp David accords, according to Weizman, who at the time was Israel's defense minister, obligates Israel to resolve the Palestinian problem in all its aspects.

[Weizman] It was the most nationalistic prime minister, known as Menahem Begin, who actually signed a document that says that the West Bank and Gaza are there to be discussed, and the ones to be discussed with are the Jordanians and Palestinians.

[Royston] A year ago 'Arafat recognized 224 and 338, but Husayn did not see that as enough. What's different now?

[Weizman] Ask Husayn. Am I a representative of Husayn? You asked me what I thought. I said, again, if, if, if, if, if, I say yes. Ask the if's of Husayn.

[Royston] Do you think there is a chance of a move forward now, from Israel's point of view?

[Weizman] If I did not believe that there was a chance I wouldn't be sitting here as a minister in the Israeli Government, because I think that the future of Israel lies

predominantly in the political situation, in the peace process, in eventually achieving peace with most, if not all, Arab countries.

[Royston] Some 6 months ago, continued Weizman, an agreement was reached between King Husayn and Shim'on Peres to undertake direct negotiations under the umbrella of an international peace conference. It had the United States' and Egypt's support. It was Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir who rejected the proposal. Chances, stressed Weizman, must be taken, and this opportunity must not be lost. [end recording]

Ben-Aharon on 'Arafat Message

TA101203 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Yosi Ben-Aharon, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, believes the prime minister will not receive Knesset Member [MK] Charlie Biton when he returns to Israel with the message from Yasir 'Arafat, because in Ben-Aharon's opinion 'Arafat's remarks and the message are merely a public relations ploy. In an interview with the Voice of Israel, Mr Ben-Aharon said the PLO must not be allowed to take part in any political process in the region, because peace can be made only with states. According to Ben-Aharon, the political process in our region is not deadlocked. On the contrary, following the prime minister's meetings with Charles Hill and with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, pathways in the peace process are being opened.

Shamir Will Not Meet Biton

TA101851 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Excerpt] The Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem emphasized again today that Yasir 'Arafat's remarks are an old trick aimed at creating the impression that he is embracing peace while Israel is rejecting his proposals. Our political correspondent Yig'al Goren has been told that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has no intention of meeting with Knesset Member Charlie Biton even if he is bearing a message from Yasir 'Arafat. If such a message truly exists, one of the prime minister's aides will meet with him. [passage omitted]

'Arafat's 3 Conditions Noted

TA110423 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 11 Sep 87

[Text] The local Jerusalem newspaper *Kol Ha'ir* says the PLO is willing for direct negotiations with Israel on three conditions: mutual cessation of hostilities, a halt to Jewish settlement in the administered territories during the negotiations, and mutual recognition. However, the paper's reporter, who accompanied Charlie Biton to Geneva, said Yasir 'Arafat refused to make the offer public.

Jordan Protests Plan To Drill for Water

TA110434 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 11 Sep 87

[Text] Jordan has protested over Israel's plan to drill for water at Herodion, near Bethlehem. The protest was handed by Jordan's Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i to the American ambassador in Amman and was conveyed to Defense Minister Rabin by Ambassador Thomas Pickering. Israel's Agriculture Minister Arye Nehamkin has said the water will be used for the West Bank and Jerusalem. He says Israel is already supplying water from the Sea of Galilee to the West Bank and the Herodion drilling is aimed at replacing this.

Rabin Returns From Visit to FRG 10 Sep

TA101908 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] The defense minister returned this evening from his state visit to the FRG, leaving the airport directly for his home without talking to reporters. Our correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that a protest vigil by Israel Aircraft Industries employees awaited him near his home. Rabin ignored their calls for his resignation.

Rabin Makes 5-day Visit to FRG

For reportage on Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's 5-day visit to West Germany beginning on 7 September, including his meeting with his West German counterpart Manfred Woerner, see the Federal Republic of Germany section in the 9 September West Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues

Tamir, PRC UN Envoy Discuss Peace

TA101329 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
10 Sep 87 p 1

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] The PRC will establish diplomatic relations with Israel after an international conference under the auspices of the five powers is convened. The possibility of this radical change in Chinese foreign policy was hinted at by Li Luye, Chinese ambassador to the United Nations, in his New York meeting with Avraham Tamir, Foreign Ministry director general. Tamir told Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres that the atmosphere in the meeting was good and that significant progress was made in bilateral dialogue. Tamir is also scheduled to meet the Soviet ambassador to the United Nations.

Speaking over the telephone, Tamir told *Hadashot*: "The meeting between the Chinese ambassador to the United Nations and me was a direct continuation of our former meeting some months ago. We spoke about the Gulf, but the main part of the meeting, which lasted approximately 2 and 1/2 hours, was devoted to the Middle East conflict. China is willing to contribute to the political process through a direct dialogue with us. I have no doubt that if an international conference is convened, China will recognize Israel officially and establish full diplomatic ties with us."

According to Tamir, the Chinese emphasized the importance they attribute to the participation of Palestinian representatives in the negotiations, although they did not present this as an ultimatum. Tamir in turn rejected PLO participation in the conference.

The two officials also discussed the possibility of cooperation between China and Israel in various fields such as trade and exchange of technological knowhow. The Chinese ambassador praised Peres' political initiatives and expressed wonder over the fact that Israel is halting the development of the political process. The direct contacts between the two officials are to continue.

Dialogue With PRC 'Highly Encouraging'

TA100821 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Sep 87 p 4

[News analysis by Benny Morris: "Slow Thaw in China Freeze"]

[Text] China in modern times seems at once to follow in the Soviet Union's footsteps and to be in competition with its Communist Big Brother. So it has been in the two powers' penetration of the Third World and in their staggered detentes with the West — and so it is now in their Middle East policies. What seems to drive China, above all, is a desire — born of the woes and frustrations of history — not to be left out.

The current name of the Middle East game, at least as far as the world outside the Likud and the Abu Nidal group is concerned, is "the international conference." While China's leaders may doubt that such a gathering will materialise in short order or, indeed, succeed should this most unlikely denouement take place, they are resolved not to be ignored or left out and to figure as prominently in the deliberations as their size and weight in the world merits.

Hence, they must keep their finger on the pulse of events, make their views known and be heard and leave no one in doubt that they are and will remain one of the major players. This is the main purport of the recent series of meetings between the director-general of the Foreign Ministry, Avraham Tamir, and Chinese officials, the latest of which took place yesterday in New York. Tamir and the Chinese ambassador to the UN, Li Luye, met previously last April.

Israeli officials view the meetings as "highly encouraging" as they constitute the establishment of "an institutionalized, permanent channel of diplomatic communications" between the two countries. Both officials, during their meeting, apparently referred to their meetings as such and agreed on "the continuation of the dialogue." Israeli officials noted the similarity of this description to the senior Soviet official Vladimir Polyakov's promise to U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy last June that Moscow intends to establish a "permanent channel of communication" with Israel.

Israeli officials were also encouraged by the Chinese agreement, as was forthcoming last April, to publicize the Tamir-Li meeting. Israel and China are now past the stage of secret "deniable" conversations. The meetings are regarded by both sides as "normal."

But Jerusalem does not expect that the meetings can or will speedily result in the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries or in any substantial changes in China's Middle East policies.

As Li no doubt told Tamir, as he did last April, the possibility of Israeli-Chinese diplomatic ties is contingent on the achievement of a measure of real progress towards the solution of the Middle East conflict and, above all, toward the settlement of the Palestinian problem.

China remains firmly wedded to its positions - that the PLO represents the Palestinian people and must participate in any Middle East peace process, including the prospective conference, and that a major element of a settlement must be an independent Palestinian state.

Israeli officials believe that a rapid change in China's positions is unlikely for a variety of historical-political reasons as well as because of the nature of the Chinese Government, where decision-making is a long drawn-out process in which new ideas or changes must pass through thick levels of bureucracy up and down the chains of command. But Jerusalem expects that Beijing will not lag behind any major movement in Moscow regarding the conference.

At the same time, Jerusalem no doubt hopes that any signs of Israeli-Chinese rapprochement and coming together regarding the conference will catalyze Moscow toward similar movement (as occurred in the protracted trilateral story of U.S.-Soviet-Chinese detente).

Tamir and his staff in Jerusalem maintain that there are "areas of agreement" between China and Israel about the nature and prospective course of the international conference, but they refuse to elaborate. Observers believe that among Tamir's aims at the meeting was the setting up of a meeting in New York toward the end of the month between Peres and his Chinese counterpart.

Should such a meeting take place, Peres would no doubt try to delineate and tack down - and perhaps subsequently to publicize - the grounds of Chinese-Israeli agreement about the conference, to prod the Soviets towards concurrence with the agreed contours of the conference and to harry and irk the Prime Ministers Office back in Jerusalem (where for months Premier Shamir's aides have maintained that the conference idea is "dead" and a "non- starter.")

Egypt Said To Down IDF Drone 26 Aug

TA101345 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 10 Sep 87 p 3

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Dan Avidan]

[Text] Egyptian Army antiaircraft units downed an IDF pilotless plane on 26 August. This was reported by Arab sources in Cairo who said the drone was intercepted over

the Red Sea while photographing the Egyptian Army's deployment in the southern Sinai and along the sector southwest of the Suez Canal. According to this information, reports on the incident were silenced thanks to the intervention of Israeli Ambassador to Cairo Moshe Sason and senior representatives on the joint Israeli-Egyptian Military Committee.

Security Sources Deny Laying Sea Mines

TA101421 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Senior security sources have denied reports from Lebanon that Israel planted sea mines from Tyre southward to the Israeli border to prevent terrorists from launching attacks. The sources did tell our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal, however, that there are some elements in Lebanon who wish to mine the sea shelf to foil Israel's operations. The report on the mining of waters off southern Lebanon was reported this morning by security sources in Tyre. The Lebanese newspaper *Al-Nahar* reported that Israel threatened to blockade all sea ports from Beirut southward unless the Shi'ite Amal organization released the Israeli Air Force navigator held captive for the past 10 months.

Navy Detonates Mine Off Lebanese Coast

TA101512 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Navy forces have discovered a sea mine off the Lebanese coast. The mine, which was detonated by our forces, is similar to mines discovered in the Persian Gulf. It is assumed it was planted by elements linked to Iran.

Grenade Explodes in Ramallah; No Injuries

TA110814 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 11 Sep 87

[Text] A hand grenade was thrown last night at the military government building in Ramallah. The grenade went off but no one was injured. Security forces searched the area and imposed a curfew. Near Nabulus a stone was thrown at an army vehicle, shattering its windshield and lightly injuring the driver. The stone thrower was apprehended.

BAMAHANE Notes Progress of Syrian Army

TA101403 Tel Aviv BAMAHANE in Hebrew 9 Sep 87 p 9

[Text] During 1985-86 the Syrian Army invested most of its resources in decreasing areas of deficiency and in absorbing and adjusting to new systems. During these years the Syrian Army received the following weapons: approximately 20 helicopters, 2 submarines, 4 missile boats, 7 vessels, Soviet MIG-29 planes, improved T-72 tanks, and advanced air-to-air missiles. The Syrians have also continued improving the quality of support systems and high-tech elements such as advanced air warfare systems, improved tank protection, improved fire-control systems, and night-vision equipment. In air systems there has been an improvement in the range of airplane radar and in electronic warfare.

Kuwaiti Paper Cited on Terry Waite Release

JN101237 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Citing Western diplomatic sources in Beirut, the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Qabas* today reports that Terry Waite, the Anglican Church envoy kidnapped in West Beirut on 20 January 1987, will be released late this month. The sources add that intensive contacts are taking place between London, Damascus, Beirut, and Tehran regarding Terry Waite.

Cordes Release Possible 'Within Days'

NC111157 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1130 GMT 11 Sep 87

[Text] The *Al-Shira'* magazine reported today that former West German hostage Schmidt was released in return for a $2 million ransom and that a similar ransom may lead to the release of Cordes within a few days. The captors, the magazine adds, have been informed that Bonn will consider a lighter sentence against Hamadah. The Bonn Government and the Siemens Company have denied that any ransom money was paid to the kidnappers.

Chamber Speaker Returns From Damascus

NC101659 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni returned to Beirut at 1300 today after visiting Damascus. While there, he held talks with Syrian officials on current developments in Lebanon.

52 Citizens Deported From Czechoslovakia

NC101442 Beirut Domestic service in Arabic
1400 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Fifty-two Lebanese citizens deported from Czechoslovakia arrived in Beirut at 1430 today aboard a Middle East Airlines plane. A Middle East Airlines source has said that the Lebanese deported were holding fake passports or visas. Meanwhile, the Czechoslovakian charge d'affaires in Beirut has told the *National News Agency* that the embassy has no details about the reasons behind the deportation, but he added it is possible the deportees were staying in Czechoslovakia illegally. He promised to provide an accurate and official account early next week.

Amal Detonates 2 Mines Off Tyre Coast

NC110616 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 11 Sep 87

[Text] A new feature of Israel's hostile practices is represented by the fact that three strange objects, which turned out to be mines, were found floating at sea off the Tyre coast. Amal Movement personnel in the area detonated two mines and sank the third. Meanwhile, a search is continuing for other mines, which, according to security sources, are believed to have been planted in the area by Israeli occupation forces.

Amal Movement security sources in Tyre have reported that the three mines were found 2 days ago off the coast of (Ma'aliyyat 'Arab), which is south of Tyre. The sources said the mines were in blue boxes with English writing on them, adding that two mines were detonated and the third sunk. The sources said each mine had three openings and was oblong and approximately 1 meter in length. When detonated the mines made an immense boom.

A UN truce supervision force, along with Amal Movement personnel, inspected the area where the mines were found. The force collected parts of the two detonated mines to examine them and determine their origin.

Amal Denies Involvement in Shatila Clashes

NC110911 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0815 GMT 11 Sep 87

[Text] Amal Movement sources have denied that the movement was involved in this morning's clashes in the Shatila camp. They say these clashes occurred between pro- and anti-'Arafat groups and add the Amal Movement saw similar clashes taking place between the two sides inside the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp throughout the night, which resulted in casualties.

Further on Shatila Situation

NC111049 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0915 GMT 11 Sep 87

[Text] The situation in the Shatila camp deteriorated at 1130 today to include the area of the Al-Sharq movie theater. Reports say that despite the Amal Movement's denial of any clashes with the Palestinians, pro-'Arafat groups fortified their positions, stocking them with food supplies and ammunition during a 24-hour truce. Negotiations were held in both Beirut and Sidon during this truce to reach an agreement on halting propaganda and military campaigns between the rival factions.

Resistance Kills 3 in Ambush in South

NC101119 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] A national resistance group ambushed a joint patrol of the occupation forces and their agents near the Kafr Huna roadblock yesterday. The group clashed with the patrol members, killing three enemy personnel and wounding four others. A member of the group was also injured and was rescued by his companions.

Afghanistan

Wakil on Geneva Talks With Pakistan

LD101814 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] It was announced last night in Geneva that the 11th round [also referred to as fourth stage of the seventh round] of indirect talks between the foreign ministers of Afghanistan and Pakistan through the mediation of D. Cordovez, special representative of the UN secretary general, will continue today, Thursday. These talks were scheduled to last 3 days and to end on Wednesday. Cordovez has told journalists that after the end of these talks he will make statement.

DRA radio and television has conducted a telephone interview in this respect with Comrade Abdol Wakil, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and DRA foreign minister. We draw the attention of our esteemed listeners to this interview:

[Begin recording] [Announcer] Esteemed Comrade Abdol Wakil, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and DRA foreign minister. As (?we have heard), the fourth stage of the seventh round of the Geneva talks ended today, 10 September. We have the opportunity of interviewing you through the (?office) of the DRA permanent representative [word indistinct] at the UN office in Geneva. How do you assesses the results of this round of the talks?

[Wakil] Thank you. As our esteemed compatriots know, the fourth stage of the seventh round of talks between the DRA and Pakistan, under the aegis of D. Cordevez, representative of the UN secretary general, was convened in Geneva from 6-10 September. We attach enormous importance to these talks and we have made all necessary efforts for a political solution of events surrounding Afghanistan. The principled policy of the DRA Government arises from the wish and determination of the people of our country — because we know very well that the people are weary of war and fratricide [word indistinct] armed interference and other kinds of interference from abroad that has been imposed on our country — a policy that seeks the restoration of peace and calm in the country.

On the basis of this determination by the people of Afghanistan, the DRA Government has always participated in the talks with goodwill, good political intentions, and reasonable and rational flexibility.

At the last round of talks, which ended today, the DRA side again emphasized the need to resolve all remaining issues and displayed (? its previous flexible stand) [words indistinct].

Of course we expected that the other side, perceiving the goodwill and honesty of the Afghan side, would take steps [words indistinct] for the restoration of peace and security in our region.

It must be mentioned that at the end of this round of talks it was agreed that talks should be continued in the future and at a suitable time, which will be determined through diplomatic channels. The talks between the parties will be resumed in Geneva.

In conclusion, I once again want to emphasize that the DRA side will continue all necessary efforts for the successful conclusion of the process at the Geneva talks and to achieve a just and realistic political solution to events surrounding Afghanistan.

Politburo Session Held 9 Sep

LD100220 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 9 Sep 87

Kabul, September 8, BAKHTAR — A periodical session of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the PDPA was held here today. The session assessed the preparatory measures to be taken for the nation-wide conference of the PDPA on national reconciliation and adopted a specific plan in this connection. The session pointed out that the Soviet Union renders considerable assistance in the form of gratis aid to the DRA in order to meet the needs of the inhabitants. In continuation of its earlier assistance, on the basis of the agreement dated March 26, 1987, the Soviet Union will put at the disposal of Afghanistan economic assistance free of charge at a worth of 260 million roubles. The Politburo session also endorsed specific measures for the better management of transferring and distributing the gratis aids of the Soviet Union to the deserved people. The session also decided upon the convocation of the second congress of the medical staffs of the DRA. The Politburo also studied and discussed a number of national and international issues.

Leaders Cable DPRK's Kim Il-song

LD102232 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Kabul, September 9, BAKHTAR — A message of felicitation was cabled by DRA's party and state leadership to Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Worker's Party of Korea and president of the Korean People's Democratic Republic, (DPRK) and as well as to the chairman of the Council of Ministers, on the occasion of the 39th founding anniversary of the DPRK to Pyongyang.

Appeciating the achievements scored by Korean people in the fields of socio-economic development, the message expresses support to DPRK's policy of peaceful reunification of Korean Peninsula and its struggle for converting that area to a non-nuclear zone and gradual reduction of military forces.

The message has been signed by Najib, general secretary of the PDPA CC, Haji Mohammed Samkani, acting president of the Revolutionary Council and Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of Council of Ministers of the DRA.

India

Punjab Urged To Reject Sikh Priests' Call

BK100624 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] The subcommittee of the Punjab National Integration and Communal Harmony Council on law and order has stressed the need to further activate the village peace and development panels to mobilize public opinion against terrorism. At a meeting in Chandigarh last evening, the committee asked the people to reject the call of the four Sikh high priests to support the militants. The meeting, presided over by the police chief, Mr Ribeiro, was attended by representatives of various political parties.

In Punjab, one terrorist was killed and four arrested in three encounters last night. The terrorist was killed near Batala. A large quantity of arms and ammunition was recovered from the four terrorists who were arrested in encounters on (Kalanor) Road and Gurdaspur-Batala Road. Meanwhile, more raids are being conducted on the suspected hideouts of the terrorists in Amritsar District.

Parties Criticize Call

BK101338 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Several political parties have criticized the call by the four Sikh high priests to support militants. The Punjab Congress-I has described it as antinational and against the tenets of Sikh religion. In a statement in Chandigarh today, the general secretary of the state party unit, Dr Kewal Krishan, alleged that the call has been given under pressure by the militants. He expressed the hope that the Sikh community as a whole will ignore the call.

The president of the Akali Dal-Master Tara Singh group, Jathedar Rachpal Singh, and the chairman of the Panthic party, Mr Tejwant Singh, have expressed concern and criticized the statement of four Sikh high priests. At a joint news conference in New Delhi today, both the leaders described it as an antinational step. They appealed to the high priests to withdraw the statement in the interest of Sikh community and the nation.

The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] president, Mr L.K. Advani, has expressed serious concern over the announcement of the four Sikh high priests and called upon all Sikh organizations and leaders to denounce it. Talking to newsmen in New Delhi, he said this is a direct attack on national unity and integrity. He demanded the deployment of the Army in Punjab. Mr Advani said that the BJP's concern over the situation was conveyed to the president, Mr R. Venkataraman, when a party delegation called on him today to present a memorandum on the unprecedented drought situation in the country.

More Leaders Criticize Priests

BK101650 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Excerpts] Several leaders and political parties have condemned the action of the head priests in supporting the terrorists and separatists. The union communications minister, Mr Arjun Singh, described the stand taken by the Sikh head priests as most unfortunate. Mr Singh told newsmen in Indore today that the terrorists will be sternly dealt with and every effort will be made to bring peace in Punjab. The Punjab governor, Mr S.S. Ray, expressed grave concern over the call given by the head priests in the Golden Temple and said it is against the Sikh traditions. Speaking at a function at Faridkot, he appealed to the people of the state to cooperate with the government in its efforts to bring peace and prosperity. [passage omitted]

The National Council member of the Communist Party of India [CPI-M], Mr Satyapal Dang, has said the statement of the four Sikh high priests shows that they are fully supporting the terrorist organisations. The CPI-M has termed the statement issued by the high priests as a desperate move to boost the morale of the extremist elements who have been put on the run. The Politburo of the party appealed to the people to stand united and oppose antinational activities. It also urged the government to take political initiative to solve the Punjab problem and to fight the terrorist menace. The Janata Party has also criticized the action of the high priests. In a statement, the party general secretary, Mr Yashwant Sinha, and Mr S. Jaipal Reddy appealed to them to review their approach.

In Punjab, two more persons including a terrorist have been shot dead in separate incidents since last night. According to an official spokesman, one terrorist was shot dead in an encounter with the CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] patrol near Vira village in Amritsar District. In another incident, one person was shot dead and another seriously injured by terrorists in village Dolawal in Bhatinda District early this morning.

Sikh Separatist Leader Killed in Punjab

BK101615 Hong Kong AFP in English 1555 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Sept 10 (AFP) — Five people, including a Sikh separatist leader, have been killed in the northern state of Punjab, where Sikh militants freed a colleague from police custody, the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) said Thursday.

Bagel Singh, a leader of the Khalistan Reserve Force (KRF), one of several groups fighting for a Sikh nation in Punjab, died in a shoot-out with security forces in Gurdaspur District overnight Wednesday, the news agency said.

The exchange came after Bagel Singh and three accomplices threw a hand grenade at a patrol and opened fire, District Police Chief J.P. Virdi was quoted as saying. The accomplices escaped leaving Bagel Singh's body.

Tajinder Singh, another KRF "general," was arrested after another gunbattle in the same district late Wednesday, PTI said.

Both men were sought for several murders and robberies in Punjab. [passage omitted]

Calcutta Police Shoot at Congress-I Workers
BK101616 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] In Calcutta, the police today opened fire at Mallik Bazar to disperse Congress-I demonstrators who tried to obstruct a CISF [Central Industrial Security Force] van carrying a patient. A spokesman of the state government said the police who were trying to clear the road to allow the van to go was brickbatted by the demonstrators. The police opened fire to bring the situation under control.

This was a sequel to a clash between the police and the Congress-I workers who tried to enter Rawdon Square to plant saplings as a symbolic protest against the conversion of a park into a commercial center. The chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, told newsmen in Calcutta this evening that four persons were injured in the firing. He said police had to open fire after lathi [baton] charge and tear gas shells failed to control the demonstrators. A number of buses and police vans were set on fire.

The West Bengal Pradesh [state] Congress-I president, Mr Priyaranjan Das Munsi, however, told newsmen that 40 of his party workers including Mrs Mamata Banerjee, MP were injured in the incident. The Congress-I has given a call for a 12-hour bundh [strike] in the city tomorrow to protest against the police firing. Essential services have been exempted from the purview of the bundh.

Report on Cooperation Talks with Sri Lanka
BK100859 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 9 Sep 87

[Text] India is to provide Sri Lanka a credit of 25 crore rupees and also a grant of the same amount. The amount of credit has been increased by 5 crore rupees after a meeting the visiting Sri Lankan minister for finance and planning, Mr Ronnie de Mel, had with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi this evening. The 25 crore grant is for reconstruction and rehabilitation in the Northern and Eastern provinces of Sri Lanka which suffered extensive damage and devastation in the ethnic strife in recent years. The credit will be on easy terms and repayable in 15 years with a moratorium period of 3 years.

India and Sri Lanka have also agreed to cooperate in a number of areas, including oil exploration, transport, trade, power, telecommunications, and joint ventures. The wide-ranging agreement came at the end of the 3-day meeting of the joint commission for economic, trade, and technical cooperation between the two countries in New Delhi today. The agreed minutes of the meeting were signed by the finance minister, Mr N. D. Tiwari, and his Sri Lankan counterpart, Mr Ronnie de Mel.

Discussions were held in an atmosphere of utmost cordiality and warmth. Both sides expressed satisfaction that the joint commission's meeting was held soon after the historic India-Sri Lanka agreement to restore peace and normalcy in the island nation. While announcing the 25 crore rupee grant, India has also agreed to send a team of experts to Sri Lanka soon to make an on-the-spot assessment of the needs for reconstruction and rehabilitation. Sri Lanka has invited India to take part in the meeting of the Aid Sri Lanka Group to be held in December to consider external assistance for the program of reconstruction and rehabilitation. Mr de Mel expressed the hope that India will henceforth take part as a full member of the Aid Sri Lanka Group meetings organized by the World Bank. Mr Tiwari agreed to process the matter at the earliest.

Reviewing bilateral trade, the two sides noted with concern the decline in the overall volume of trade during the last 2 years. They agreed to take effective steps to expand and diversify the 2-way trade. An Indian delegation would visit Sri Lanka to continue the efforts. In the transport sector, India agreed to (?extend) assistance to Sri Lanka for restoration of railway tracks damaged in recent years, particularly in the Northern and Eastern provinces. The Indian side also agreed to consider Sri Lanka's request for providing railway consultancy services for reorganizing its railway security and catering services. India also indicated its intention to operate a direct air service between Delhi and Colombo and a new service between Tiruchirapalli and Kankesanthurai. Sri Lanka showed interest in operating a ferry service between Talaimannar and Rameswaram in addition to the one which will be resumed by the Shipping Corporation of India from January next.

About oil exploration, the two sides agreed to exchange data to develop an exploration strategy for the Palk Straits and the Gulf of Mannar area by ONGC [Oil and Natural Gas Commission] and Hydrocarbons India Limited. The Sri Lankan side invited India to take part in joint ventures based on local raw materials with suitable buy-back arrangements.

Later talking to newsmen, Mr Ronnie de Mel said the India-Sri Lanka agreement has been supported by a majority of the people from all sections in Sri Lanka. He said the Sri Lankan Government will do everything to ensure that the agreement is implemented in letter and spirit and it seeks India's cooperation in this regard. Replying to a question, he said that during his discussions with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, matters pertaining to sharing of surplus electric power between the two countries also figured.

Meanwhile in Sri Lanka, one more batch of 609 Tamil detenus was released today under the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement. With this, 2,500 such detenus have been released so far.

Iran

Khamene'i Delivers Friday Prayer Sermons

LD111243 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Sep 87

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, in the Friday prayer sermons in Tehran today, pointed to the united presence of the people in the march marking the 40th day of the martyrdom of Bloody Friday in Mecca and said: Today's great march of the people all over the country is a jaw-crushing blow to global arrogance and braggarts who pursue and follow the aims of arrogance.

In connection with the bloody tragedy of Mecca, the Friday imam of Tehran stressed the point that what happened in Mecca is inseparable from events that preceded and followed it and is part of a chain of the base deeds of arrogance in the face of the Islamic Revolution and the world of Islam. He remarked: The real motivation behind the attack of the Saudi regime's police against the Mecca marchers was that they were terrified of the slogans of the marchers who were chanting slogans about unity, about "Death to Israel" and "Death to America" — as these slogans are especially dangerous to global arrogance and also are especially sweet and attractive to Muslims. It was due to the fear of the response to these slogans that the Al Sa'ud regime surrendered to the plots of arrogance. Moreover, the consequences of this turned out to be the same thing that they feared. The Islamic Revolution emerged with pride from this event.

The Friday imam of Tehran, emphasized: We shall not forget the Mecca incident and this incident will certainly have a determining effect on our policy and the positions we adopt, be it in our confrontation with arrogance or in confrontation with vile and corrupt puppets of arrogance, such as the Al Sa'ud regime.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council next referred to the latest tensions in the Persian Gulf and the official presence of the United States in this region. He remarked: The world is aware of this region these days because arrogance has come here and entered the arena with all its might and strength. However, it should know that the Iranian nation will also appear in this arena with all its might. By explaining that the United States has not dared to remain on the secene by itself and has asked European countries to cooperate with it, he added: It is not from the standpoint of military strength and fighting power that the United States dragged Europe into the Persian Gulf, rather, the United States sensed that it would be defeated in this adventure. It realized that with every blow it delivered at Iran, it will receive a more severe blow in return. In the process, it will lose its superpower reputation. Therefore, what the United States wanted was not to be the only one to lose its reputation.

Khamene'i stressed: In our policies and positions toward the countries of the world, we adhere to a definite principle: If all the powers of the world were to become united, we would not abandon our principles and our rights, and we shall not compromise our principles.

Referring to the upcoming visit of the UN secretary general to Tehran and the United States' anxieties over this issue, President Khamene'i remarked: We welcome the coming of the secretary general and are ready to listen to reasonable words. We will listen to just words and accept them. However, we should not be expected to accept unjust words. This nation has fought injustice with all its might and by sacrificing tens and thousands of persons. This nation will not give in to unjust words and force.

The Friday imam of Tehran, in his Friday prayer sermons, on the occasion of the anniversary of the demise of the tireless mujahis, Ayatollah Taleqani, and the anniversaries of the martyrdom of Ayatollah Madani and Qodusi, praised the valuable services they had rendered Muslims and Islam.

Airline Offices in Paris Attacked

LD101906 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] At 0700 this morning, a 5-man team of agents of global arrogance attacked the office of the airline company of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the Champs Elysee Avenue in Paris and smashed the office windows.

Oslo Embassy Occupied; Police Irresponsible

LD101734 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Sep 87

[From the headlines]

[Text] The Iranian Embassy in Oslo was occupied today by invaders. The Foreign Ministry of our country issued a statement concerning the savage attack by global arrogance agents and terrorist counterrevolutionaries against the our embassy. The Foreign Ministry announced: Not only have the Norwegian police acted very irresponsibly in the face of the invasion of the terrorists, but they have even given permission to journalists to prepare their reports and films.

Protest Issued to Norwegian Envoy

LD101813 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] The spokesman of our country's Foreign Ministry discussed the savage attacks against the Islamic Republic of Iran in Norway by agents of the arrogance. He said: This morning, counterrevolutionary mercenaries belonging to global arrogance attacked the mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Oslo. Brandishing fire arms, they assaulted and injured diplomats and employees of the Islamic Republic of Iran Embassy in Norway, and took them hostage.

He added: Terrorist elements acting freely in West European countries including Norway, have done much damage to the embassy in the course of the savage and terrorist-style attack. They badly beat up the charge d'affaires, his wife, and his 4-year-old child.

Noting the coordination of the terrorist act in Oslo with savage attacks by counterrevolutionary groups against the Iran Air offices in Frankfurt and Paris — causing great damage and serious injury to an officer in charge of the Frankfurt office — the Foreign Ministry spokesman said: Attacks by the hired counterrevolutionaries had been predetermined and the police did not take any effective steps to prevent such attacks. He added: The Norwegian police acted irresponsibly vis-a-vis the terrorists' attack. Although police happened to be near the embassy, they showed no response following the attack. Despite the beating of the employees, the torturing of the wife and young child of the charge d'affaires by the terrorist counterrevolutionaries inside the embassy, and the requests by responsible officers at the embassy for the police to enter the embassy and arrest the invaders, the police in effect became viewers of the incident.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman added: Another proof of coordination between the Norwegian police and the invaders was that of allowing media personnel to enter the embassy and film the scene after the police had already been asked not to allow it.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman added: This evening, the Norwegian ambassador to Tehran was summoned to the Foreign Ministry and a strong protest by the Islamic Republic of Iran vis-a-vis the terrorist-style incident and the incompetent approach by the Norwegian police was conveyed him.

In conclusion, the Foreign Ministry spokesman stated: We hold the Norwegian Government responsible for the protection of the mission and lives of the diplomats and employees of the embassy, as well as their families. The Norwegian Government should immediately respond vis-a-vis the incompetence of its police in confronting the terrorist armed attack against the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran staged by counterrevolutionaries. The government should take steps to pay compensation and to return property, documents, and papers stolen by the lackies of arrogance, and bring the terrorist elements to trial and punish them.

FRG Envoy Summoned on Frankfurt Attack

LD102120 Tehran IRNA in English 2010 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Excerpts] Tehran, Sept. 10, IRNA — Norway should give a frank explanation to Iran about the irresponsible behaviour of the Norwegian police towards an armed terrorist attack by Iranian counterrevolutionaries on the Iranian Embassy in Oslo, said a Foreign Ministry spokesman here Thursday. [passage omitted]

He revealed that Norwegian Ambassador to Tehran Bernt Stangolm [name as received] was summoned to the Foreign Ministry tonight and handed a strongly worded protest note against the terrorist attack and the delayed actions of the Norwegian police in confronting the assailants. [passage omitted]

In related development, said the spokesman, the Iran Air offices in Frankfurt and Paris were raided by members of counterrevolutionary grouplets as a result of which heavy losses were inflicted and the official in charge of the Frankfurt office was badly injured.

Following these fresh attacks the West German Ambassador to Tehran Armin Fraetag was summoned to the Foreign Ministry tonight and demanded an explanation about the Frankfurt incident, disclosed the spokesman.

Iran believes these attacks were pre-planned, said the spokesman, noting that the police in these countries did not even bother to take preventive measures but on the contrary watched the proceedings in mute silence despite pleas from Iranian officials. [passage omitted]

Majlis Speaker on Resolution, Minesweeping

LD101946 Tehran IRNA in English 1935 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 10 IRNA — Iran's Majlis speaker says the Islamic Republic considers articles of the recent Security Council resolution on the Iraq-Iran war as positive but that "We do not accept its other articles."

Speaking after a meeting of the 'War Support High Council' here Thursday evening, the speaker said "We consider as positive those articles (of the Security Council) which point out the need to identify the aggressor party, condemn acts contradicting international conventions in the war, and prohibit other countries from interfering in the imposed war. We reject other articles."

Hoj. Hashemi-Rafsanjani who is also spokesman of the Supreme Defence Council, further said the visit to Tehran of the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar had been scheduled since the approval of resolution 598 of the Security Council. The trip, he said, needed some preliminaries which were arranged by Iran's diplomatic representatives.

Prior to that, the speaker said, Iran did not accept the Security Council resolutions due to their being unfair and one-sided. "But we saw some positive points in this one and announced readiness to hold negotiations."

The SDC spokesman said Iran has not totally rejected the latest resolution because "We see points which can be discussed." Others (countries), he said, expect Iran to either totally reject or accept these resolutions.

One of the negative points in the resolution, according to Majlis speaker, is the declaration of a cease-fire as soon as negotiations start and before the aggressor is identified and put on trial. "We do not accept this article," he stressed.

In the opinion of Hoj. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the article on identification of the aggressor party can be regarded as "the only key to solve the issue."

Added he: "It is a positive point which must take place before a cease-fire is announced. We suspect the U.S. and are confident that as soon as a cease-fire is declared

they would not be honest in practice. Therefore, we cannot accept this risk. We say the aggressor must be identified first and then the way would be paved for other issues to be solved. Evidently, the trial and punishment of the aggressor and payment of war reparations would begin with this very step. If this replacement (of articles) takes place, the way will be paved. Our agreement with the visit of the U.N. secretary general too, was for the fulfillment of this replacement."

On the despatch of Dutch and Italian mine-sweepers to the Persian Gulf waters, he said: "These shows are more political. We believe these countries are dependent on the U.S. for various reasons. In this regard too, they have followed the U.S. The mere presence of these mine-sweepers would not create any problem because they announced they do not intend to get involved in the war. But since this number of mine-sweepers is not needed in the Persian Gulf, the measure becomes just a show. Even if these countries decide to send more mine-sweepers to the Persian Gulf, the task of mine-sweeping would not be successful unless Iran wants, because a mine can be made to refloat after a ship has passed. There are also other types of mines which cannot be discovered."

Rafsanjani regretted that these governments (Dutch and Italian) first criticised the U.S. but now have been pressured by Washington to get involved.

The SDC spokesman also reminded that the presence of Italy alongside the Nazi Germany, and that of Netherlands along the Allied Forces in the World War II, only caused damage and more trouble for the parties involved without leaving any impact on the fate of the war.

He also said Japan's financial support for the U.S. in the latter's military expedition to the Persian Gulf too, has been due to Washington's pressure on the Tokyo Government.

In conclusion of his remarks, the speaker said: "These governments are deceiving their nations and we think their presence in the Persian Gulf will not be very effective. But in international position-takings, we will take these measures into consideration."

Interviewed on Gulf Situation

NC111030 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 11 Sep 87

[Interview with Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani by unidentified correspondent on 10 September; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [passage omitted] [Correspondent] The War Support Council convened this evening. Could you tell us about the most important topic of the session and what decisions have been made?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The session began yesterday. We attended it from in the morning until noon. As the session could not end, it was followed up today and then later continued from the evening onward. Given the situation in the region, with the presence of the United States and other Western countries and the renewed mischief-mongering of the Iraqi Ba'th, we were drawing up special programs during these sessions on the dispatch of forces and preparations. Various other matters are also being planned. We are functioning within this framework. [Correspondent] Misdeeds by the Iraqi regime following a lull of a few days on the eve of a visit by the UN secretary general began again. Could you comment on why Iraq has resumed these measures, in your opinion, and what the Islamic Republic of Iran will do to counter the Iraqi acts? [Hashemi-Rafsanjani] These moves by Iraq, in our opinion, are not borne out of the Iraqis' own decisions. Then why are their decisions effective? They are dependent on the general situation. As before, this is the same old general policy adopted by the United States and its allies a long time ago, which they believe, by creating an atmosphere of threats, fear, and crisis, they can bring us to the negotiating table. The presence of the UN secretary general in Iran will be (?for the purpose of) talks and discussions and they think that this is an appropriate time to remind us that there is danger. They have been getting the wrong results for their policies, but they still pursue the same. Iraq is, of course, acting according to orders.

[Correspondent] The UN secretary general previously said that until grounds for peace were prepared in Iran and Iraq and until the two sides were prepared to negotiate, he would not visit Iran and Iraq. Could you tell us on the eve of his visit and while Iraq is carrying out attacks against economic installations and maritime targets in the Persian Gulf, what is the significance of this visit?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] This was only one of the things he said. He had said other things as well. That is, as soon as the resolution was issued and he was charged with assessing the issue, he announced right at the beginning that he wished to visit Iran and Iraq as well. This was a primary policy. If he had said other things in the meantime, they were not on principle. The original accord was such. However, we were required to prepare some primary arrangements. These have already been made. We were not at all ready to comment on the context of these past resolutions. However, in this resolution we have noted some positive topics and we will not be refusing the same outright. This one has left some room to discuss things. It was natural that he should come here and hear our views. Although some of our officials did have discussions on some of our views with him there, he prefers to come here and discuss things with the actual officials of the country. This is because we have not rejected the resolution categorically.

[Correspondent] No Islamic Republic of Iran official has yet given a clear view on UN Resolution No 598. Could you explain the view held on this resolution by the Islamic Republic of Iran authorities?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] The summary of our views has been said explicitly. However, others expect us to say either we categorically accept all of it, or we categorically do not accept any part of it. That cannot be so. We are telling the truth.

There are positive points and negative points in this resolution. The positive points state that for the first time the Security Council must recognize the aggressor. The way they have said on how to recognize is not acceptable to us. However, the principle of the issue has been mentioned. In one of the articles of the resolution it has been mentioned that other countries are now allowed to use the resolution, to misuse it to attain an irrelevant presence in the region — as the United States is now doing. Mention has been made in the resolution of Iraq's acts which are against the norms — the use of chemical weapons, bombing of cities, attacks on commercial and civilian lines, whether air or sea, and similar things. From this point of view, it is positive.

The important negative point in the resolution — something that we do not accept as such — is that there must be an unconditional cease-fire. We do not accept this. So, we cannot say categorically that we accept or do not accept the resolution. We say we accept part of the resolution but not all. That is, they have put their finger on the key point; the only thing is that they have done it badly and we are suspicious. They say first a cease-fire, then the identification. Given such a record, we cannot accept such a risk. We do not know what they will do. Therefore, we say no. First, the aggressor must be identified so that we may know that you have goodwill. You must clearly state this. When that has been done, then the way can be opened for the rest of the problems. Their goodwill is then proven. The correct line would be to amend the resolution in this way. This we have now agreed to and the secretary general is coming here for negotiations on the resolution because of this positive point. He is coming for this reason; we will talk about it. We accepted because we can see the possibility of a trend in the direction of our principal demands. Our principal demand was that the aggressor be named and then a tribunal be set up to determine the punishment and crime of the aggressor. Naturally, this includes war reparations. We do not want anything else in the war. In any case, it is logical that we discuss this issue with the secretary general.

[Correspondent] Italy and the Netherlands have recently said that they are ready to send forces to the Persian Gulf. Japan has also said that it will provide financial assistance. In spite of the fact that these countries were opposed to U.S. interference in the region in the past, why are then now doing this?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] First, these acts are political displays. The United States was criticized because it came to the Persian Gulf alone. With regard to her global situation, the United States wants to solve this problem. It is not a big issue if some minesweepers remain in the region or not. Minesweepers are not here to fight; they are here to clear the waterways. Well, first of all, there is no need for so many minesweepers. Bringing them in is more of a display. Second, if they bring in more forces and if we decide to plant mines, they cannot do anything. Even if they manage to clear the waterways, we have such a presence on the coasts that we can plant mines at any point before the ships start moving.

Moreover, the mines are such that some of them cannot be found. This is a political move rather than a military one, The other thing is that first, they said something and then later they did the opposite. In our view, these are positive points. We never believed that European countries could act independently. They always act under pressure from the United States. They have weak points on which the Americans are able to exert pressure, from the aspect of financing or other things that they are in need of in the United States. We expected them not to do it, but we saw that they cannot make independent decisions and obviously (?they themselves) understand it. The same gentlemen who were criticizing Reagan for being an adventurist now approve of these moves. It is a shame.

Besides, the presence of Italy and the likes of the Netherlands cannot be of any use to them. In World War II they were the cause of the weak stances and axes of the allies. Italy was close to Germany; she was constantly a loser, whether in Africa or in the Balkans, and was saved by Hitler. The Dutch sided with the Allies, but fell when Germany swiftly captured the coasts of the Netherlands and Belgium. These moves posed a threat to England and its waterways. Hundreds of English and French forces were besieged there and captured, and their war (?losses) were numerous. They are not worthy of our counting on them. This is merely a show that they are staging.

Well, the Japanese have many, many problems with the United States. The United States has many bases there. They are strongly under the pressure of the United States. We believe that the new position they have adopted has been imposed on them. However, they must somehow deceive their own nation. From our point of view it does not make much difference — the U.S. arrival or the arrival of all of them. It will have no bearing on our work. They cannot do more than what the United States has already done if they all gather here. Of course, in global and world cases and on the political front, it does have some effect.

[Correspondent] Thank you.

Karrubi on Purpose of 11 Sep Marches

LD101541 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Interview with Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi, supervisor of Iranian pilgrims, by unidentified correspondent in Tehran on 10 September —recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] In view of your invitation for tomorrow's glorious marches and the widespread expression of support by various organizations and foundations, please tell us about the significance of these marches.

[Karrubi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The dear viewers and esteemed listeners are aware that the bloody incident in Mecca is the most important issue of the day. It is such a tragedy that our imam, who is so patient, so forebearing, so open-hearted, has reached the end of his patience on this issue. It is not merely for the sake of the martyrs. An even more important and significant reason is the violation of the sanctity of the house of God. I think that these marches will have great reverberations throughout the world of Islam, because the feelings of the majority of the Muslims of the world are greatly hurt. Moreover, in view of the moves made in Iran, and of the familiarity of the Muslims of the world with Islamic principles and their awareness of the role of Iranians as the forerunners of Islamic movements, and also in view of the fact that they know that the Islamic Republic of Iran is very serious regarding this issue, they will be led in the direction which the imam expects from Muslims; namely, fighting for the liberation of the two holy shrines by using any methods [words indistinct].

The other significance of these marches is that they show that the situation in the region is very tense. In fact, the tragic incident in Mecca itself is part of these events. The issue of the Persian Gulf and the issue of the massacre in Mecca are primarily aimed at placing us under seige and pressuring us so that they can force the Islamic Republic to surrender. In all of these issues without doubt, America's hand can clearly be seen in all these events.

Furthermore, I think that these marches have another significance; namely, that once again it will slap our enemies in the face. To put it briefly, we see that in all conspiracies, crises, movements, and pressures the most important decisive and conclusive factor has been the presence of the people at the scene. Therefore, when the people are there in such a critical situation, in full view of other countries, once again a blow will be delivered at the enemies who will be aware of the people's presence. You have not forgotten that when they were bombing the cities and when, despite all this, the people filled the streets, the enemy retreated. Therefore, the most important factor of victory which has safeguarded the revolution has been the presence of the people. The more they are present at the scene, God willing, the less they will be harmed.

Tehran Notes Attack on Cypriot Tanker

LD101132 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] According to a *Reuter* report, shipping sources in the region have announced that an oil tanker carrying the flag of Cyprus was attacked this morning by gunboats in the Persian Gulf.

According to this report, this attack took place off (Abu Na'iyr) island situated 60 miles west of Dubai. Because of the attack the deck of the 232,000-ton Cypriot oil tanker was damaged. A fire has possibly broken out in this section of the oil tanker.

Tehran on Internationalization of Gulf Force

LD101725 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1102 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Washington's widespread efforts to bring the NATO military forces to the Persian Gulf is the title of our first political commentary.

The other day, Jean-Bernard Raimond, the French foreign minister, who was on a visit to London, met his British counterpart with whom he discussed various issues including the present situation in the Persian Gulf. He also said in an interview in London that Britain and France, while willing to have a military presence in the Persian Gulf and to strengthen such a position, are opposed to the establishment of an international minesweeping force in this region because of their fears about tensions between East and West in the Persian Gulf.

The declaration of such a position by Britain and France is taking place at a time when, until a short while ago and before the implementation of the project to support the Kuwaiti ships, London and Paris were trying to pretend that they were opposed to sending new forces to the Persian Gulf and to interference in the current problems of this region. They were pretending that they wanted to see security and tranquility restored to the region as soon as possible.

After the passage of a short while, both of them embarked on very active roles in support of the aggressive policies of Washington by resorting to grotesque pretexts. And yet they actively tried to exert pressure on other countries in West Europe to expand the global arrogance front in this region as much as possible. Following these efforts, the Netherlands Government agreed to send minesweepers to the region while the Government of Italy is planning to send eight ships comprising minesweepers, warships, and support ships to the Persian Gulf, the Italian Government will do so in near future when the various decision-making stages are concluded.

Obviously, as has been previously, since the beginning of its acceptance of the project to support the Kuwaiti ships, the Reagan government has been trying to bring more and more countries to the Persian Gulf to show off the solidarity of the European governments with Washington, and also, by extending the said front, to spread the possible damage and blows resulting from such dangerous adventurism to all the members in proportion to their military presence, thus to prevent the possibility of Washington's entanglement in the Persian Gulf on its own.

Yet, the existing opposition of Britain and France to the presence of the international forces in the region—which of necessity and on account of its being international will include the military forces of the East as well—is indicative of the fact that because of the present stance of China and the Soviet Union toward the Persian Gulf crisis, Washington is now trying to establish united fronts of Western forces.

In a way, by gathering the member-states of NATO in the Persian Gulf, Washington is trying to pave the way for exerting pressure on the Islamic Republic of Iran and to provide all-round support for the Saddam regime through another door than the UN Security Council.

This, the presence of Eastern forces in the proposed international forces and the internationalization of the issue, will naturally bring about intolerable limitations for Washington. As a result, the raising by Britain and France of such issues as the need to prevent the East-West confrontation from spreading to the Persian Gulf are, in fact, convenient justifications so that this front may continue the trend of increasing its forces in the region as Washington desires. This way, in case of a failure to achieve unanimity of views among the members of the UN Security Council on approval of the second phase of the resolution concerning the Iran-Iraq war, the United States will be able to follow other alternatives to support the Saddam regime.

In any case, the trend to increase the presence of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf, the active participation by Britain and France in it, and the agreement by some other European countries to send military forces to this region has in practice shown that the real objectives behind the build-up of such a military force in the Persian Gulf go far beyond that of so-called guaranteeing the security of Kuwaiti ships and ensuring Kuwaiti oil exports to Western countries. According to available evidence, the most obvious of these objectives is to bring pressure to bear on the Islamic Republic of Iran and to bring about conditions which make it possible for the Saddam regime to extricate itself from its present crisis.

However, the efforts of Western governments to extricate Saddam from his present crisis are a dangerous departure which will entail a loss of face far more bitter than for the multinational forces in Lebanon.

New 'Mishaps' Befall U.S. Navy in Gulf

LD101753 Tehran IRNA in English 1652 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] London, Sept. 10, IRNA — Two new mishaps have befallen the nervous U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf while an American-owned oil installation has been reportedly hit by an explosion in the Kuwaiti side of the 'neutral zone'.

According to American Navy sources, three terrified U.S. sailors were rescued from the Persian Gulf after being forced to jump from a Sea Stallion mine hunter when its tail rotor failed.

The London *Daily Telegraph* quoting the sources said that the incident had occurred several days ago but had just been disclosed by the U.S. military. The pilot was said to have stayed aboard the helicopter and managed to return to the assault carrier *Guadalcanal.*

It was the second reported mishap involving American helicopters since it started convoying Kuwaiti tankers in July but the first to its Sea Stallions. A Sea King had crashed into the sea during initial operations on July 31 and killed several of its personnel.

In a separate incident wednesday, a U.S. Navy spokesman in Bahrain said that two of its sailors had been injured with shrapnel from a 40mm grenade which exploded "prematurely" aboard the missile cruiser *William H. Standley.*

Elsewhere oil industry sources have said that there was also a huge explosion Wednesday at the American oil installations in Kuwait's side of the 'neutral zone.'

According to the London *Guardian*, no immediate details have been released about the explosion, but said that if sabotage is confirmed it would be the "first known attack" inside the zone.

The jointly owned oil-rich zone is located between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and some dlrs 3 million a day of its proceeds are contributed to Iraq's war effort against the Islamic Republic.

Jamarani Leaves for Meetings in Lebanon

LD101225 Tehran IRNA in English 1025 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 10, IRNA — An Iranian delegation led by Hojjat ol-Eslam Imami Jamarani, imam's representative to Hajj and Pilgrimage Organisation left here for Syria and Lebanon on the eve of Friday's rallies marking the 40th day after the bloody massacre of hajj pilgrims by Saudi agents on July 31.

The delegation includes head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) Mohammad Hashemi, and head of Hajj and Pilgrimage Affairs Mohammad Hoseyn Rezai'e.

The delegation will attend gatherings of Shi'a and Sunni Muslims in the two countries and will meet with Syrian and Lebanese scholars.

Guards Corps Statement on Artillery Attack

LD101523 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] The Joint Staff of the three forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps issued the following statement:

Following the recent mischiefs of the Ba'thist Zionist regime of Baghdad, the artillery units of the ground force of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps shelled Iraqi

industrial and economic centers in the cities of Basra and Al-'Amarah. The targets included the airport, the train station, the radio television station, the Shu'aybiyyah garrison, the industrial complex, and industrial and customs centers of Basra which have been under heavy fire since 2200 last night. They have received heavy casualties and damages.

According to this statement, the jetty and merchant shipping establishments and military centers of Umm Qasr in Iraq have also been brought under the intense fire of the coastal guns of the Navy of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. Tens of the Iraqi troops stationed in this region were either killed or wounded.

The report states that the smoke from the enemy's blazing military, industrial, and economic centers in the target regions can be seen.

Combat Operations Against Iraq Continue

Kurds Kill 22 Government Troops

LD101013 Tehran IRNA in English 0855 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 9, IRNA — Peshmergas of Iraq's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) killed 22 government troops and captured 27 others during their infiltration into 'Sharbajir' [name as received] District of Al-Sulaymaniyah Province and an ambush on the Sar Qal'ah-Kepri [name as received] road, a few days ago, informed sources said today.

In the course of the operations PUK forces set afire three Iraqi vehicles, seizing three others together with a wireless set intact, said the sources.

Meanwhile, local Kurdish people teamed up with the PUK Peshmergas to attack a Ba'thist military base in Atrush Region, Liwa al-Mawsil Province, killing and wounding all its personnel and taking prisoner two Iraqi soldiers, the sources said.

According to the sources Iraqi warplanes bombed eight villages in Liwa al-Mawsil Province over the past few days inflicting casualties and losses on the villagers.

Communique No 2,955

LD101654 Tehran IRNA in English 1641 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 10, IRNA — Iranian Navy gunboats intercepted and searched 11 cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Wednesday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied they were not carrying goods for Iraq.

Announcing the above, the 2955th Joint Staff communique reported here Thursday that the Muslim combatants continued their battle with Iraqi troops throughout the battlefields yesterday, inflicting substantial losses in men and equipment on the enemy.

In the southern fronts, the communique said, Iran's Muslim forces reconnoitered and shelled Iraqi positions, supply routes and vehicle columns Wednesday, killing and wounding at least 11 enemy soldiers and destroying several gun emplacements and a munitions dump of theirs.

The communique, released by the Joint Staff Command of the armed forces said that several Iraqi gun emplacements and observation posts, a multiple rocket launcher and a munitions dump were destroyed in the northwestern and western fronts by Iranian artillery fire yesterday.

An Iraqi patrol convoy attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in a western operational theater Wednesday was forced to flee by heavy artillery fire, according to the communique.

The Joint Staff communique added that several Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and more than 10 enemy emplacements of various weapons as well as a command vehicle were destroyed in parts of the southern fronts in artillery duels with Iran's gendarmerie forces yesterday, the communique concluded.

3 VII Iraqi Corps Positions Destroyed

NC110812 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 11 Sep 87

[Text] According to the report received from the southern operational sectors, in an intense 5-hour long operation in the region of the Al-Faw-Umm Qasr highway, the Islamic combatants destroyed three tactical positions of the VII Iraqi Corps and more than five ammunition dumps and tens of individual and joint bunkers, as well as armored equipment of the Zionist enemy, were set ablaze.

During this fierce fighting, which was carried out with the superior artillery fire of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps' coastal units, the Zionist enemy became flustered and resorted to shooting hundreds of lighted flares in the operational sector to boost the morale of his terrified personnel. In the 5-hour fighting between the Islamic fighters and the forces of the Iraqi regime, some of the misguided Saddamist forces were killed or wounded. In addition, due to the destruction of the aggressing enemy's ammunition dumps, some of their positions and equipment were set alight, the smoke from which covered the sky for hours.

Iraqi Plane Downed Over Khark

LD111105 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Sep 87

[Text] An Iraqi aircraft at 2132 last night became the target of the regional air defense units' fire over the skies of Khark Island and was downed, falling into the Persian Gulf. According to reports, after this aircraft was downed, the rest of the aggressor enemy aircraft were repelled before they were able to carry out their mischievous missions.

Pakistan

Protest Lodged Over Afghan Shelling in NWFP

BK101632 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Three persons were injured and an electric transformer was damaged in internal area of Khar Gharbi in Khyber Agency as a result of six rounds of artillery fired by Afghan Armed Forces on Saturday [5 September] last. A protest has been lodged with the Afghan charge d'affaires over the unprovoked attack.

Geneva Afghan Talks Adjourn Without Agreement

BK110340 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 11 Sep 87

[Text] The Geneva proximity talks on Afghanistan have adjourned without any agreement. The talks will reconvene at a later date to be decided through diplomatic channels. This was announced by the UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan, Diego Cordovez, at a news conference in Geneva 10 September. He expressed his disappointment that no agreement could be reached on the timetable for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. However, he added that the differences between the perceptions of the two sides have been further narrowed at the round of talks.

Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said at a news conference that Pakistan will remain committed to the Geneva peace process despite the disappointment it has felt at the total inadequacy of the proposals put forward by the Kabul regime. He confirmed that the Kabul regime had lessened the timetable for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan from the previous 18 months to 16 months, but Pakistan maintained that the withdrawal time must not be more than 8 months. The Kabul regime failed to make counterproposals to Pakistan's suggestion, and hence the talks were adjourned. He said it is enigmatic as to why the Kabul regime had proposed the current round of talks if it did not have any concrete plan to facilitate the withdrawal of Soviet troops. It is also surprising that the current round of talks was proposed by the Kabul regime, but Pakistan was asked to present its proposal first regarding the timetable for the withdrawal of troops. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said Pakistan refused to do so for certain reasons, but the proposal later presented by the Kabul regime's delegation was totally inadequate.

The foreign minister said Pakistan attaches great importance to its relations with the Soviet Union and desires to promote these ties despite differences on the Afghanistan question. Pakistan understands that Gorbachev was sincere when he had stated that the Soviet Union wants to withdraw its forces from Afghanistan. Pakistan will continue its negotiations with the Soviet Union on this issue, the foreign minister added.

Foreign Office Spokesman on Afghanistan

BK101716 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Pakistan has reaffirmed its determination to play a positive and constructive role for a just and a implementable settlement of the Afghanistan problem. A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad today that Pakistan's prompt response to the Kabul regime for the current round of indirect Geneva talks reflects its desire for an early political settlement of this problem. He said at the Geneva talks it will be known whether this proposal was mere propaganda or if there was really any justification for convening the current round of talks. He said the question of the timeframe for the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan still remains the most important matter under consideration but besides this there are some other points which deserve attention.

In the third instrument, which relates to the arrangements for the return of Afghan refugees, there is a clause to determine the refugees' opinions on whether the arrangements for their return are satisfactory. The spokesman said that finding out the opinion of 3 million Afghan refugees for their return to their home from Pakistan, and deciding a strategy and timeframe [for their return] and the modalities for UN assistance have yet to be worked out.

The spokesman described as totally baseless that the Government of Pakistan is hindering the return of Afghan refugees to their country. The spokesman made it clear that Pakistan had not invited Afghan refugees to come to Pakistan and it will not hinder their return home. Pakistan is making efforts to settle the Afghan problem through the indirect Geneva talks in order to create an atmosphere conducive for the return of Afghan refugees to their country.

Concerning nonintervention, he said there should not be any ambiguity on the international border. Pakistan accepts the existing recognized international border between Pakistan and Afghanistan according to the rules and regulations of the United Nations.

In reply to a question, the spokesman said the matter of forming a government inside Afghanistan is not within the purview of indirect Geneva talks. But it is necessary to establish a government which is acceptable to all the parties concerned for the restoration of peace in Afghanistan. [passage omitted]

Views India Talks, Siachen Issue

BK101235 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 10 Sep 87

[lExcerpt] [passage omitted] About the current Indo-Pakistan talks in Lahore on revision of ground rules, the spokesman said it is an elaborate excercise and the new rules will take some time to finalize.

About the Siachen Glacier, the spokesman said the Pakistan Government is anxious that peace and tranquility prevail all along the line of control in Kashmir.

Pakistan had expressed its readiness to continue talks at the defense secretaries level which were last held in January this year. He denied reports about any fresh incident between the two sides in Siachen in recent months.

Belgian Foreign Minister Continues Visit

Received by Ziaul Haq 9 Sep

BK091620 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 9 Sep 87

[Text] The visiting Belgian foreign minister, Mr Leo Tindemans, has had official talks in Islamabad with the Pakistan delegation. The Pakistan side was led by the federal minister for education, Sayed Sajjad Haider, in the absence of the foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, who is presently in Geneva. Both sides discussed bilateral cooperation and exchanged views on the regional situation, international issues, and commercial interests.

The Belgian foreign minister called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Islamabad this evening. Welcoming him, the president referred to the close and cordial relations between the two countries which have been further strengthened by high-level visits. They also exchanged views on bilateral cooperation, the regional situation, and other issues of mutual interest.

Reaffirms Afghan Stand

BK100644 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Belgium has reiterated its stand that the root cause of the Afghanistan problem is the Soviet intervention in that country. A solution to this problem should be found which can ensure the withdrawal of Soviet troops, the restoration of the right of self-determination to the Afghan people, and the return of Afghan refugees to their homes. The Belgian stand was reaffirmed by Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans while speaking at a dinner hosted by Federal Education Minister Syed Sajjad Haider on behalf of Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan who is abroad. Tindemans said both Belgium and Pakistan desire world peace and security and respect the independence and sovereignty of other nations.

In his speech, the education minister said Pakistan attaches great importance to its friendship with Belgium, as the two countries are playing an important role in the maintenance of peace and stability in their respective regions. The education minister thanked Belgium for the assistance it has provided to Pakistan to shoulder the heavy burden Islamabad has been facing because of the Afghanistan situation.

Visits Afghan Refugees 10 Sep

BK110747 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 Sep 87

[Text] Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans told newsmen in Islamabad today that he had talks on bilateral, regional, and international issues with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and other Pakistani leaders. He said that during his meeting with Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, he discussed Belgium's technical assistance to Pakistan, especially in the establishment of technical centers, and reviewed the implementation of decisions made during the Pakistani prime minister's visit to Belgium.

The Belgian foreign minister also visited an Afghan refugee tent village at Kachagarhi near Peshawar today. He told the Afghan refugees there that his country will do everything to mobilize international public opinion to end the existing situation in Afghanistan. He assured them of Belgium's continued assistance to Afghan refugees on humanitarian grounds.

The Belgian foreign minister also visited two health and educational training projects for Afghan refugees being run by Belgian voluntary agencies. He also called on NWFP Governor Fida Mohammad Khan in Peshawar on 10 September.